

Judge Sides with Brady on 'Deflategate,' NFL to Appeal

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady leaves federal court in New York. Federal Judge Richard M. Berman overturned NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell's four-game suspension of Brady Thursday, September 03, 2015. The league said it will appeal the ruling.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)
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China shows off rising power in marking WWII defeat of rival Japan

CHRIS BODEEN
IAN MADER
Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — With fighter jets roaring overhead, China's leader presided Thursday over a massive parade of tanks, missiles and troops that displayed growing military might, but also pledged to reduce the army by 300,000 troops in a bid to show that his country poses no expansionist threat.

The spectacle through the heart of Beijing commemorated Japan's World War II defeat seven decades ago, with helicopters zooming across the sky in an array forming the number 70, but the event also underlined President Xi Jinping's determination to make China the pre-eminent Asian power.

Xi kicked off the proceedings with a speech from atop iconic Tiananmen Gate, flanked by Chinese leaders past and present along with foreign dignitaries including Russian leader Vladimir Putin, South Korean President Park Geun-hye and U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

"The experience of war makes people value peace even more," Xi said. "Regardless of the progress of events, China will never seek hegemony, China will never seek to expand and will never inflict the tragedies it suffered in the past upon others."

To underline that point, Xi said the 2.3 million-member People's Liberation Army would cut 300,000 troops. However, it will still remain the world's largest standing military and the reduction comes at a time when growing technological capabilities reduce the need for large numbers of troops. Wearing a grey high-buttoned suit of the sort worn by past Chinese leaders, Xi then drove past the assembled troops in a Chinese-made Red Flag limousine. Standing in the sunroof with four microphones mounted in front of him, he called out "Greetings, Comrades" every few moments before the troops started their

marching.

The event involved more than 12,000 troops, 500 pieces of military hardware and 200 aircraft of various types, representing what military officials say is the Chinese military's most cutting-edge technology.

The parade is part of commemorations packaged to bolster the ruling Communist Party's self-declared role as the driving force behind Japan's defeat 70 years ago and savior of the nation, though historians say the rival Nationalists did most of the fighting. The events also minimize the role of the U.S., Britain and others, although Beijing has attempted to stress the support it has received from a wide spectrum of foreign nations.

Most leading democracies kept high-level representatives away, reflecting concerns over the parade's anti-Japanese tone and China's recent assertive moves to press territorial claims.

The U.S. sent only its ambassador to observe. In Washington, U.S. Defense Department spokesman Bill Urban said the U.S. maintains such commemorations should be about reconciliation and that a "large military display would not appear to be consistent with this theme."

Under Xi, who took power as party leader in late 2012, Beijing has sent ships to confront Japan's coast guard near disputed islands in the East China Sea, challenged Philippine outposts near the country's shores and constructed whole islands from reefs, topping them with airstrips and other military infrastructure.

China usually holds lavish military parades only every 10 years to mark the anniversary of the founding of the Communist People's Republic in 1949. By holding an additional one now, Xi ensures that he'll preside over at least two of the prestigious events during his decade-long tenure in power ending in 2023.

The parade panders to a prickly strain of nationalism

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Military vehicles carrying DF-10 ship launched cruise missiles drive past Tiananmen Gate during a military parade to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, in Beijing Thursday Sept. 3, 2015.

(AP Photo/Andy Wong, Pool)

in a Chinese public constantly reminded by state propaganda of China's

past humiliations at the hands of foreign powers, especially Japan, which is

widely despised for its perceived failure to properly atone for invading China. □

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Trump signs pledge to back Republican 2016 nominee



Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump holds a signed pledge during a news conference in Trump Tower, Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015 in New York. Trump ruled out the prospect of a third-party White House bid and vowed to support the Republican Party's nominee, whoever it may be. (AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump ruled out a possible third-party White House bid Thursday and vowed to support the Republican Party's next presidential nominee — whoever it may be.

To the dismay of Republican leaders, Trump has emerged as the over-

whelming front-runner in the party's crowded field of candidates, despite repeatedly insulting key constituencies and offering few details about his policies. The billionaire businessman and reality television star has described Mexican immigrants as rapists, questioned Sen. John McCain's

war hero status and insulted a popular TV news host. Trump is considered a long-shot for the White House, but could undermine the eventual Republican nominee with an independent run for the presidency by splitting the conservative vote. Trump's declaration that he would not do so

comes just weeks after he roiled the Republican race when, in response to the first question at the opening debate of the 2016 campaign, he refused to promise to back the party's nominee if he fell short. Trump was intensely lobbied by Republican National Committee leaders, who have struggled to rein him in, and announced his decision shortly after meeting privately with RNC Chairman Reince Priebus. "The best way forward ... to win, is if I win the nomination and go direct against whoever (the Democrats) happen to put up. So for that reason, I have signed the pledge," Trump said. "So, I will be totally pledging my allegiance to the Republican Party and the conservative principles for which it stands, and we will go out and we will fight hard and we will win," he said. The decision puts an end — for now — to the nervousness felt inside the Republican party about the prospect of Trump holding firm and keeping

his options open. At the debate, he said that gave him "a lot of leverage." The pledge is not legally binding. Trump could always change his mind, particularly if Republican establishment leaders take aggressive steps to thwart his candidacy in the coming months. If not for Trump, the need for such a loyalty oath probably would not exist. There were no doubts about the intentions of the Republicans' other major presidential contenders headed into the debate, and they quickly lined up Thursday to sign.

"The RNC clearly felt it had to box Trump into a decision," said Doug Watts, a spokesman for fellow candidate and retired surgeon Ben Carson. "We just sort of shrugged our shoulders, and that's the end of that." The RNC's pledge asks candidates to promise to "endorse the 2016 Republican presidential nominee regardless of who it is." Further, it asks them to pledge "that I will not seek to run as an independent or write-in candidate, nor will I seek or accept the nomination for president of any other party." "It is, more than anything, your word," former technology executive and candidate Carly Fiorina said Thursday on CNN's "New Day." "And I would presume that somebody running for president would like to signal to the American people, and most especially right now to Republican primary voters, that their word can be trusted." □

Pondering campaign, Biden sticks close to Obama

KEN THOMAS
Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Vice President Joe Biden is presenting himself as a natural heir to President Barack Obama's policies, previewing his potential pitch to voters as explores a possible presidential run during a trip to Florida.

Biden planned to outline the Obama administration's role in brokering a

nuclear agreement with Iran during a meeting with Jewish leaders on Thursday morning. It would follow a robust defense of Obama's work to address middle-class economics and college affordability during a Wednesday stop at a Miami community college.

As Biden considers a late entry into the Democratic primaries, he faces a field that has been dominated

by former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, whose message emphasizing the need to redress growing economic inequality has been drawing large crowds to campaign events.

Clinton has locked up much of the Democratic establishment and few expected Biden to enter the race. But Clinton's recent

slide in primary polls and questions surrounding her use of a private email account and server while at the State Department have prompted Biden's deliberations.

In Miami, Biden raised money for the Senate Democrats' campaign arm but did not address his 2016 plans, according to two donors who attended the event. □

Kentucky clerks to license marriages as their boss is jailed



Edgar Orea, left, and Dwayne D. Beebe-Franqui argue on the steps of the Carl D. Perkins Federal Building in Ashland, Ky., Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015. Orea, a supporter of Rowan County Clerk Kim Davis, and Beebe-Franqui a supporter of same sex marriage were waiting for the arrival of Kim Davis in Federal Court. Davis and her deputy clerks have been summoned to a hearing Thursday before Judge David Bunning. Davis stopped issuing licenses to all couples in June after the U.S. Supreme Court legalized gay marriage.

(AP Photo/Timothy D. Easley)

ADAM BEAM

Associated Press

ASHLAND, Kentucky (AP)

— A defiant county clerk went to jail Thursday for refusing to issue marriage licenses to gay couples, but five of her deputies agreed to end the church-state standoff in Rowan County, Kentucky.

U.S. District Judge David Bunning said he had no choice but to jail Kim Davis for contempt after she insisted that her "conscience

will not allow" her to follow federal court rulings on gay marriage.

"God's moral law conflicts with my job duties," Davis told the judge before she was taken away. "You can't be separated from something that's in your heart and in your soul."

The judge later tried to keep Davis out of jail after all, saying she could go free if her staff agreed to comply with the law and she agreed not to interfere.

But Kim Davis rejected the offer, choosing jail instead. With that, the hearing ended, and gay and lesbian couples vowed to appear at the Rowan County clerk's office yet again Friday, to see if the deputy clerks keep their promises. "We're going to the courthouse tomorrow to get our marriage license and we're very excited about that," said April Miller, who has been engaged to Karen Roberts for 11 years.

In a landmark ruling, the U.S. Supreme Court on June 26 found that gay marriage bans are unconstitutional and the vast majority of government officials around the country have since adhered to that ruling. As word of Davis' jailing spread outside the federal courthouse, hundreds of people chanted and screamed, "Love won! Love won!"

But Davis' lawyer, Roger Gannam, compared her willingness to accept imprisonment to what Martin Luther King Jr. did to advance civil rights, and said "everyone should lament and mourn the fact that her freedom has been taken away for what she believes."

Laura Landenwiche, an attorney for the plaintiffs, re-

jected the comparison.

"Ms. Davis is in an unfortunate situation of her own creation. She is not a martyr. No one created a martyr today," Landenwiche said. "She is not above the law."

Speaking earlier from the bench, Bunning said it would set up a "slippery slope" to allow an individual's ideas to supersede the courts' authority.

"Her good faith belief is simply not a viable defense," Bunning said. "I myself have genuinely held religious beliefs ... but I took an oath."

"Mrs. Davis took an oath," he added. "Oaths mean things."

Davis is represented by the Liberty Counsel, which advocates in court for religious freedom. □

Senate:

Democratic support piles up for Iran deal

ERICA WERNER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP)

— Now a done deal, the Iran nuclear agreement gained critical backing from three more Democratic senators Thursday, deflating opponents and boosting White House hopes of blocking a disapproval resolution in the Senate and sparing President Barack Obama from resorting to a veto.

Democratic Sens. Cory Booker, Mark Warner and Heidi Heitkamp announced their support in quick succession for the deal that aims to curb Iran's nuclear program in exchange for

wide relief from economic sanctions.

The announcement from Booker, in particular, was closely watched because he was under immense pressure from segments of the Jewish community in his home state of New Jersey to oppose the deal, and New Jersey's other Democratic senator, Bob Menendez, is an outspoken opponent.

In a statement, Booker voiced deep reservations but concluded: "It is better to support a deeply flawed deal, for the alternative is worse. Thus, I will vote in support of the deal. But the

United States must recognize that to make this deal work, we must be more vigilant than ever in fighting Iranian aggression."

Warner and Heitkamp added their voices not long after. Warner called the accord negotiated by the United States, Iran, Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China "the best option for advancing the goal of keeping Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon." Heitkamp declared: "If we reject this deal, Iran will be closer to developing a nuclear weapon, and we will reduce our standing and authority in the world."

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Clinton camp urged ex-State Dept. employee to testify

MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Aides to Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton urged a former State Department employee who helped set up her private email server while she was secretary of state to appear before a congressional investigative panel, but the former staffer has said he will assert his constitutional right not to testify.

Clinton, the Democratic front-runner for the 2016 nomination, has been dogged by criticism about her use of a private email server for government business during her tenure as secretary of state, and she has struggled to explain her decision.

The response of Bryan Pagliano to a committee subpoena was unwelcome news to Clinton aides who had pressed him to be interviewed by the Republican-led panel investigating the deadly 2012 terrorist attack in Benghazi, Libya. The aides were not authorized to publicly discuss private conversations and



Former Clinton chief of staff during her tenure as secretary of state, Cheryl Mills, right, arrives to be interviewed before a House panel on the Benghazi investigation on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015. Others shown are unidentified.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

spoke only on condition of anonymity.

Attorneys for Pagliano sent the committee a letter Monday saying their client would not testify at a hearing planned for next week. The panel subpoenaed Pagliano last month. Pagliano was a State Department employee from 2009 to 2013 and is now a private contractor working in the department's Bureau of Information Resource Management, according to a department official who

asked not to be identified when discussing personnel matters.

Rep. Elijah Cummings, the top Democrat on the Benghazi panel, said he was not surprised that Pagliano would refuse to testify, given the "wild and unsubstantiated accusations" against Clinton.

The special committee was established last year to investigate the Obama administration's response to the Benghazi attacks that killed four Americans, in-

cluding the U.S. ambassador to Libya. The investigation has widened in recent months to focus on Clinton's use of a private email account and server. Clinton has dismissed both controversies as "partisan games."

She also has said she regrets using a personal email account to conduct government business.

Nick Merrill, a spokesman for Clinton's campaign, said in a statement Thursday that Clinton and her team "have been confident from the beginning that Clinton's use of a personal email was allowed and that she did not send or receive anything marked classified, facts confirmed by the State Department and the inspector general" for the department.

Clinton "has made every effort to answer questions and be as helpful as possible, and has encouraged her aides, current and former, to do the same, including Bryan Pagliano," Merrill said.

Clinton is set to testify before the Benghazi committee next month. □

Trio charged with running \$54M green energy Ponzi scam

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Three people were charged Thursday with running a \$54 million Ponzi scheme built on promises of a green energy technology that would turn trash into fuel and "carbon-negative" housing developments, neither of which were ever fully developed, federal prosecutors said.

Troy Wragg, 34, of Georgia; Amanda Knorr, 32, of Pennsylvania; and Wayne McKelvy, 52, of Colorado were charged with wire and securities fraud and conspiracy.

Prosecutors said the trio lied to investors that their "biochar" technology and "carbon-negative" housing in Tennessee made millions, but they had almost no earnings and used the money to repay earlier investors and for themselves. The scam allegedly ran from 2005 until 2009, even after the Securities and Exchange Commission filed a civil lawsuit against Wragg and Knorr's Mantria Corp. They were ordered in 2012 to pay \$37 million each.

"The scheme alleged in this indictment offered investors the best of both worlds — investing in sustainable and clean energy products while also making a profit," U.S. Attorney Zane Memeger said in a news release. "Unfortunately for the investors, it was all a hoax and they lost precious savings. These defendants preyed on the emotions of their victims and sold them a scam."

The investors got back about \$6 million in June as part of a class-action lawsuit against former Mantria employees, according to attorney Patrick Howard. Wragg and Knorr were not part of that suit. □

Report: Church shooting suspect to face death penalty

MEG KINNARD
Associated Press

COLUMBIA, South Carolina (AP) — The white man accused of killing nine black churchgoers during a Bible study will face the death penalty, according to court documents filed Thursday.

The documents said prosecutors would pursue the death penalty against Dylann Roof, 21, because more than two people were killed, and that others' lives were put at risk. Prosecutors also said they intended to present evidence on Roof's mental

state, adult and juvenile criminal record and other conduct, as well as his apparent lack of remorse for the killings.

Roof faces state charges including nine murder counts in the June 17 slayings at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church.

He is expected in court again on those charges in October.

He also faces federal charges including hate crimes and obstruction of the practice of religion, some of which are also eligible for the death penalty

in that system. U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch has said federal charges were necessary to adequately address a motive that prosecutors believe was unquestionably rooted in racial hate. South Carolina has no state hate crimes law.

Roof is white and purportedly wrote online of fomenting racial violence, and federal authorities have said he used a personal manuscript in which he decried integration and used racial slurs to refer to blacks.

A federal indictment says Roof planned for months to increase racial tensions throughout the country and seek retribution for perceived wrongs he thought had been committed against white people.

And when it came to picking a target, he purposefully selected the historic church — a centuries-old religious institution rooted in South Carolina history — "in order to make his attack more notorious," according to the indictment. Survivors told police he used racial insults during the attack. □

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US Financial Front:

America's trade deficit drops to \$41.9 billion in July

MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The

U.S. trade deficit fell in July to the lowest level in five months as exports posted a small gain while imports declined, reflecting a big drop in shipments of consumer goods such as cell phones.

The deficit narrowed to \$41.9 billion in July, a 7.4 percent decline from a June imbalance of \$45.2 billion, the Commerce Department reported Thursday. Exports were up a small 0.4 percent to \$188.5 billion, helped by stronger sales of U.S.-made autos and machinery, while imports declined 1.1 percent to \$230.4 billion.

So far this year, the deficit is running 3.6 percent above last year's level, reflecting weaker export sales. The concern is that U.S. growth

will be hurt by further declines in exports, reflecting a stronger dollar and overseas weakness in nations such as China.

Sal Guatieri, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets, predicted that trade will be a drag on economic growth over the next year as the strong dollar cuts into exports and boosts demand for imports by making foreign goods cheaper for U.S. consumers.

A sharp slowdown in China has roiled financial markets in recent weeks as investors have grown concerned that weakness in the world's second largest economy could have a more adverse impact on global growth.

The International Monetary Fund said Wednesday that China's slowdown, volatile financial markets and falling raw materials prices



The HS Mozart cargo ship, right, operated by the German shipping company Hansa Shipping, sits anchored in Commencement Bay near the Port of Tacoma, Wash. The Commerce Department reported on the U.S. trade gap for July on Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015. (AP Photo/Ted S. Warren)

could lead to a "a much weaker outlook" for global growth. China's troubles have sent the prices of raw materials such as oil and copper down sharply, increasing the economic problems of Brazil, Russia

and other commodity exporters.

The July trade report showed that America's deficit with China rose 0.4 percent in July to \$31.6 billion, the highest level in nine months. So far this

year, the U.S. deficit with China is running 8.5 percent higher than last year, and is on track to record another annual record. America's trade gap with China is the largest with any country. □



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Hungary opens door to trains for migrants, but only to camps

S. POGATCHNIK
Associated Press

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — Thousands of people desperate to reach Western Europe rushed into a Budapest train station Thursday after police ended a two-day blockade, setting off a wave of anger and confusion as hundreds shoved their way onto a waiting train. But when it tried to drop them off at a Hungarian camp for asylum seekers, a bitter showdown began. One man threw his wife and infant son onto the tracks, screaming in Arabic, "We won't move from here!" Police surrounded the prone family, pulled the husband away and handcuffed him as he wailed. His wife and diaper-clad

boy — apparently uninjured despite their stumbling descent onto the tracks — were freed and allowed to rejoin other migrants. The scene of desperation was just one of many that unfolded Thursday as tempers flared in Hungary's war of wills with migrants trying to evade asylum checks and reach Western Europe, a showdown with consequences for the entire continent. As Hungary's anti-migrant prime minister warned European partners that he intends to make his country's borders an impassible fortress for new arrivals, his government struggled to coax thousands of unwanted visitors away from the Budapest



Migrants try to board a train at the railway station in Budapest, Hungary, Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015. Over 150,000 migrants have reached Hungary this year, most coming through the southern border with Serbia, and many apply for asylum but quickly try to leave for richer EU countries.

(AP Photo/Frank Augstein)

transportation hub that has been turned into a squalid refugee camp. People fleeing war and poverty in the Middle East, Asia and Africa rushed into

the Keleti train terminal when police unexpectedly withdrew Thursday morning, ending a blockade designed to stop migrants from boarding trains to

their desired destinations in Germany and Austria. In desperate scenes, people pushed each other to reach the train's six carriages. □

Head of UN panel on Syria calls IS 'desperate'

JAMEY KEATEN
Associated Press

GENEVA (AP) — The Islamic State group appears "desperate" and is losing ground to Kurdish fighters who are battling the radicals "on behalf of humanity," the head of a U.N. panel on Syria said Thursday. Paulo Sergio Pinheiro, chair of a U.N. Human Rights Council investigative panel on Syria, made the comments to The Associated Press after it issued a new report on Syria's civil war. It said the Islamic State group has resorted to tactics like hit-and-run attacks and suicide car bombings after losses to Kurds backed by U.S.-led coalition air power. "I think they are desperate, because they are los-

ing ground," Pinheiro said of Islamic State, noting its recent gains and losses. "I think at this moment they continue to win in psychological terms, in attracting the youth from Europe and those kinds of countries. But in fact in terms of war in the territory, they are beginning to feel the pressure." But U.S. intelligence officials said this summer that even though more than 10,000 extremist fighters have been killed, the Islamic State group is fundamentally no weaker than it was when the U.S.-led bombing campaign began a year ago. The radical group controls vast swaths of territory in both Syria and Iraq. The panel's report — the 10th of its kind — offered

few major new insights into the grinding 4½-year conflict, with "no end in sight." Commission members said this edition is highlighting the immense suffering of Syrian civilians, including some 250,000 who have been killed. "Civilians are suffering the unimaginable as the world stands witness," Pinheiro told a news conference. Tactics such as encircling populated areas have caused starvation, malnutrition and chronic illness among besieged residents, the report said. It alleged abuses by several sides, including President Bashar Assad's forces, Islamic State and al-Qaida-backed Nusra Front. □



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European Central Bank ready to give eurozone more stimulus

DAVID McHUGH
 PAN PYLAS
 Associated Press
 FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)

— The European Central Bank is ready to give the eurozone economy a bigger dose of stimulus if turmoil in China and weaker global growth hurt its modest recovery, President Mario Draghi said Thursday. Market volatility, concern over a looming U.S. interest rate increase and a drop in oil prices have spawned uncertainty over the global economy, leading the ECB to cut its inflation and growth forecasts for the eurozone.

Draghi said the ECB can add to its 1.1 trillion euro (\$1.2 trillion) program, if the 19-country currency bloc needs it.

"We expect the economic recovery to continue, albeit at a somewhat weaker pace than earlier expected, reflecting in particular the slowdown in emerging market economies, which is weighing on global growth and foreign demand for euro area exports," Draghi said.

He cautioned it was premature to conclude that the market turmoil of recent weeks means longer-term trouble for the world economy. Draghi said that before acting, the ECB wanted to learn "whether this is just the beginning of long-term lower output, or a strictly transitory phenomenon."

The ECB is pumping 60 billion euros a month in newly printed money into the eurozone economy by buying government and corporate bonds. The program, dubbed quantitative easing, or QE, is slated to run at least through September 2016.

Draghi said the bank could increase the "size, compo-



President of European Central Bank Mario Draghi, center, and vice President Vitor Constancio, right, are on their way to a news conference in Frankfurt, Germany, Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015, following a meeting of the ECB governing council.

(AP Photo/Michael Probst)

sition and duration of the program."

Tom Rogers, senior economic adviser to the EY Eurozone forecast, said that

the ECB's cuts to its forecasts "imply that QE will go on longer than the current end-point."

Joerg Kraemer, chief

economist at Commerzbank, said the ECB would likely increase the size of the stimulus program at its December meeting, and

predicted it would do so by raising the amount of monthly bond purchases rather than by extending the program's duration.

A skeptic of such bond-buying programs, Kraemer argued that more stimulus would not help, saying it would only support financial markets, while taking pressure off of eurozone governments to reform their economies.

The stimulus is intended to help get consumer price inflation back toward the ECB's target of just below 2 percent. In the year to August, inflation stood at just 0.2 percent. Draghi said the rate could even go negative in coming months due to a further drop in oil prices this summer.

The hint at further stimulus boosted stock markets but weighed on the euro, whose value would be diluted if more money is put in circulation. □

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Australian leader causes offense by comparing IS with Nazis

ROD McGUIRK
Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — Australia's prime minister angered some Jewish leaders on Thursday by suggesting that the Islamic State movement was worse than Nazis during World War II. It is the third time this year that gaffe-prone Prime Minister Tony Abbott has riled Jewish Australians with Nazi analogies. Abbott used an interview with Sydney Radio 2GB on Thursday

to credit Nazis with a sense of shame for atrocities they committed. "The Nazis did terrible evil, but they had a sufficient sense of shame to try to hide it," Abbott said. "These people boast about their evil, this is the extraordinary thing," Abbott said of Islamic State fighters. "They act in the way that medieval barbarians acted, only they broadcast it to the world with an effrontery which is hard to credit," he added.

However, Executive Council of Australian Jewry President Robert Goot said there was a "fundamental difference between organized acts of terrorism and a genocide systematically implemented by a state as essential policy." He said while there is no question that Islamic State is "profoundly evil," Abbott's comments suggesting that it is in some respects worse than the Nazis were "injurious and unfortunate,"

Goot told reporters. Those responsible for state-sponsored genocide were high government officials who operated in secret "not out of any sense of shame, but to avoid being held criminally responsible," Goot added. Abbott later said he wasn't in the business of ranking evil, but stood by his comments. "I do make this point, that unlike previous evil-doers, whether we're talking about Stalin, Hitler or

whoever, that tried to cover up their evil, this wretched death cult boasts about it," Abbott told reporters. Abbott's Cabinet is expected to agree next week to a U.S. request to extend air strikes against Islamic State targets beyond Iraq into Syria. Abbott apologized in March for comparing the opposition Labor Party leader Bill Shorten to German World War II-era propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels. □

French farmers stage 1,000-strong tractor protest in Paris

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — More than 1,000 tractors — and a few cows — descended on Paris on Thursday in a boisterous protest by farmers who blocked highways to express their anger over falling prices for their goods and high taxes. They're facing increasingly slim margins they blame on cheap imports and high payroll charges, which they say make them unable to compete against producers in Germany and Eastern Europe. The farmers are seeking tax breaks from the French government and EU action.

Andie Le Mellionnec, 59, has run a dairy farm in western France for 40 years. Sporting a red hat, traditional to his home region of Brittany, and a Breton flag as a cape, he said his problem "is not whether France is a competitor or



Angry farmers park their tractors as they protest in Paris, Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015. Hundreds of tractors were descending on Paris on Thursday in a boisterous protest, blocking highways to express their anger over falling French food prices and high taxes. They are protesting increasingly slim margins they blame on cheap imports and high payroll charges.

(AP Photo/Christophe Ena)

not. My problem is simply to live — meaning to feed my family, my kids." Tractors spray-painted with

"Anger" or "Enough Bureaucracy" trundled Thursday morning along major arteries to the French capital and headed toward the Place de la Nation in eastern Paris. Some farmers headed to Parliament

later in the day. Protest organizer FNSEA, France's largest farming union, said 1,733 tractors from around the country contributed to the show of force.

Prime Minister Manuel Valls, who is pushing for reforms in the farming sector, said he would meet with the FNSEA chief Thursday. The evening before heading to Paris, grain farmer Pierre Bot said at his farm in Vauhallan, just south of the city, that he feels increasingly squeezed by larger factory farms. "It's not popular to annoy all the people on their way to work," Bot acknowledged. "Nevertheless, it's one of the only ways to make ourselves heard." Agriculture "is part of the French identity," he said outside his small fruits and vegetables store, which Bot runs alongside his grain cultivation business. □

Internet blocked in northeast Indian state to quell violence

WASBIR HUSSAIN
Associated Press

GAUHATI, India (AP) — Naga protesters on Thursday blocked a key highway and authorities shut down wireless Internet services to quell heightening tension in a northeast Indian state where seven people have died in violence this week. The protesters cut trees and moved boulders to stop trucks, buses and cars on the highway linking Manipur state with the rest of India, paralyzing normal life in the area. N. Biren Singh, a ruling Congress party lawmaker, said the state gov-

ernment blocked wireless Internet and text messaging services on Wednesday to stop rumors from provoking people to take to the streets and commit arson. The violence erupted on Monday after the state legislature approved new legislation defining who can claim to be from Manipur. Rioters set fire to the homes of nine lawmakers during a rampage. One person who was trapped in a burning house died, and three people died when police fired to disperse the arsonists on Monday. Another three people were killed on Tues-

day when police fired at hundreds of people angry about the deaths circled the town's police station. On Wednesday, state authorities imposed an indefinite curfew in Churachanpur town after protesters set a government office on fire. The town is 70 kilometers (40 miles) southwest of Imphal, the state capital. Activist Chitra Ahanthem criticized the suspension of Internet services and said it was hurting flood relief after monsoon rains forced thousands of people into shelters in the northeast. "I can't believe we have

limited or no Internet access in the state of 2.5 million people. I am involved in flood relief operations in the state and my work is getting badly affected," she said. Lawmaker Singh said the law demanding people prove that their families lived in Manipur before 1951 is aimed at keeping "outsiders," including migrants, from settling in the state bordering Myanmar. But Singh said authorities had no plans to begin checking documents soon. The protesters fear the authorities might exclude

people who arrived legitimately after that date or who don't have proper documents. The area has a mix of Kuki, Zomi, Naga and other tribes. On Thursday, the United Naga Council, an umbrella group of the Naga population in Manipur state, announced a 48-hour blockade of the highway protesting another resolution adopted by the state legislature earlier this week that opposes a division of Manipur if the Indian government signed a peace deal with a frontline Naga insurgent group. □



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Turkey skeptical Bangkok bombing suspects are Turks

GRANT PECK
N. ANUSONADISAI
Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — Turkey expressed skepticism Thursday over reports that its nationals were involved in the Aug. 17 bombing of a Bangkok landmark that killed 20 people, as Thai authorities reported finding a "suspicious fluid" during a raid at a third home linked to suspects in the attack.

National police spokesman Prawut Thavornsiri said police found items including a "suspicious fluid in a barrel" during the raid Thursday at a home in the outskirts of Bangkok. He said the items were being examined by a police explosives unit.

Thai authorities have suggested that at least two of the eight suspects are possibly Turkish, prompting the Turkish Embassy in Bangkok to issue a statement

Thursday saying that it has not received confirmation from Thai authorities about the nationalities of the suspects.

The Turkish connection has boosted a theory that the suspects may be part of a group seeking to avenge Thailand's forced repatriation of more than 100 ethnic Uighurs to China in July. Thailand is believed to be a transit stop for Chinese Uighurs attempting to go to Turkey.

Uighurs (pronounced WEE-gurs) are related to Turks, and Turkey is home to a large Uighur community. The bombed site, the Erawan Shrine, is especially popular with Chinese tourists, feeding the speculation that it could have been targeted by people who believe the Uighurs are oppressed by China's government.



This image released by the Royal Thai Police shows a man who was arrested at an apartment on Saturday, Aug. 29, 2015, in Bangkok, Thailand, along with evidence police said included bomb-making equipment and stacks of passports. Thai investigators said they have linked this man to the Erawan Shrine bombing on Aug. 17. (Royal Thai Police via AP)

China has alleged that the repatriated Uighurs included some who intended to join Islamic State fighters in Syria.

In another finding that could support a link to Uighurs, police said Thursday that a man arrested Tuesday who is considered a

main suspect in the bombing was carrying a Chinese passport. The passport indicated he was from the western Chinese region of Xinjiang, but Thai authorities had not yet verified its authenticity, said national police spokesman Prawut Thavornsiri. Xinjiang is the home of the Turkish-speaking Uighurs.

Authorities on Thursday identified the suspect but issued two different spellings of his name — Mieraili Yusufu and Yusufu Meerail-ee — and said he faces charges of possessing unauthorized explosives. Police said they found his fingerprints on a bottle of bomb-making material recovered from an apartment that was raided over the weekend. □

Seoul prosecutors seek 15-year jail term for US envoy attacker

HYUNG-JIN KIM
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korean prosecutors on Thursday asked for a 15-year prison term for the man they say slashed the U.S. ambassador during a breakfast forum in March. Prosecutors made the request at the end of the trial of Kim Ki-jong, who faces charges of attempted murder, assaulting a foreign envoy and obstruction, according to the Seoul Central District Court. The court will issue a verdict Sept. 11, a court official said on condition of anonymity citing official rules. Police said he attacked Ambassador Mark Lippert with a knife, inflicting deep gashes on his face and arm.

Lippert was treated at a Seoul hospital for five days. Police said Kim told investigators he chose Lippert as a target to highlight his opposition to springtime U.S.-South Korean military drills, which North Korea calls an invasion rehearsal. Anti-U.S. activists such as Kim have long opposed such military training between Seoul and Washington and the presence of 28,500 U.S. troops in South Korea, blaming them for persistent animosities on the Korean Peninsula. Seoul and Washington have said their drills are defensive in nature and that the U.S. military presence is aimed at deterring potential aggression from North Korea. □



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Guatemalan Congress accepts president's resignation

**SONIA PEREZ D
ALBERTO ARCE**
Associated Press

GUATEMALA CITY (AP) — Guatemala's Congress on Thursday unanimously accepted the resignation of

ter a week in which Perez Molina was stripped of his immunity, deserted by key members of his cabinet, and saw his jailed former vice president ordered to stand trial.

nocence in an interview with The Associated Press during a break in the court proceedings, saying the process had been "very hard, very difficult." He said he could have de-

"In the midst of this political crisis there is interesting and good news," said Eric Olson, a Central America expert at the Washington-based Wilson Center. "The attorney general resisted strong pressures and even asked for the president to be incarcerated ... that shows the institutions in Guatemala under the right circumstances can operate and be effective." Earlier in the day, Perez Molina gave an interview to a local radio station, saying that he doesn't "trust Guatemalan justice" and criticizing the nation's prosecutors and the United Nations commission that have mounted a huge investigation in the fiscal fraud case he was implicated in. He said the case was built by them to "seek prominence" and "to fill their egos."

The corruption scandal, uncovered by prosecutors and a U.N. commission against impunity, involved a scheme known as "La Linea," or "The Line," in which businesspeople paid bribes to avoid import duties through the customs agency. The ring is believed to have defrauded the state of millions of dollars. Ex-Vice President Roxana Baldetti's former personal secretary was named as the alleged ringleader and is a fugitive. She resigned May 8 because of the same scandal and is now jailed and facing charges. She also maintains her in-

nocence. A growing protest movement brought together Guatemalans from all walks of life demanding that Perez Molina step down. Business leaders and even Catholic church officials had called for him to resign in recent weeks as the investigation of the customs fraud ring has grown wider and hit more officials. Perez Molina was steadfast in his plan to stay until the judge's unprecedented order, only deciding to resign in the middle of the night. His spokesman told reporters the president submitted his resignation "to maintain the institution of the presidency and resolve on his own the legal proceedings leveled against him." Perez Molina was elected in 2011 on a platform of cracking down in crime. He is a retired general who participated in the country's 36-year bloody civil war, and later in the march toward peace. His critics say he also took part in the atrocities, but he has never been charged with anything. His election as president had worried leftist groups and human rights organizations because of the military's past control of the government. But Perez Molina has been a political moderate who has kept the military at arm's length, proposing at one point to legalize drugs to rid his country of the scourge of cartels and trafficking. □



Guatemala's President Otto Perez Molina talks to his lawyer Cesar Calderon as he sits in court to face corruption charges in Guatemala City, Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015. The president submitted his resignation at midnight local time late Wednesday after a judge issued an order to detain him in a corruption scandal. Perez Molina was already under order not to leave the country, and on Tuesday the congress lifted his immunity from prosecution. (AP Photo/Luis Soto)

President Otto Perez Molina amid a fraud probe that has shaken the country's political establishment just days ahead of national elections. Vice President Alejandro Maldonado, who only recently took office after his predecessor resigned in the same kick-back scandal, was sworn in as the country's new leader. The unprecedented political drama played out af-

As Maldonado took office, Perez Molina was in court Thursday hearing accusations that he was involved in a scheme in which businesspeople paid bribes to avoid import duties through Guatemala's customs agency. He is the first Guatemalan president to resign and it was not immediately clear whether he would be detained. The retired military general insisted upon his in-

railed the investigation, but didn't. "I had things I could have done," Perez Molina said. "I could have replaced the prosecutor, I could have dug in." Attorney General Thelma Aldana told reporters she will ask that Perez Molina, 64, be jailed during the court proceedings. Analysts say the resignation was a key blow to entrenched corruption in the country and a boost for rule of law.



Dominica estimates storm damage at nearly half of GDP

ROSEAU, Dominica (AP) — A preliminary assessment of the effects of Tropical Storm Erika on the island of Dominica has found damage to basic infrastructure alone that amounts to nearly half of the small country's GDP, the prime minister said Thursday. Repairs to roads and bridges across the eastern Caribbean island will total more than \$226 million, Prime Minister Roosevelt

Skerrit said. He added that it will cost about \$4 million to clear debris and more than \$14 million to rebuild the Melville Hall Airport, one of two in Dominica. "Every piece of equipment at the airport has been destroyed beyond use," Skerrit said. The overall cost to the island, which has a GDP of about \$500 million and a population of 72,000, is likely to be higher. The preliminary estimate does

not include the cost to replace 371 homes that were destroyed, mostly in the southeastern community of Petite-Savanne. A team from the World Bank was in the country conducting a more detailed damage assessment but it has not yet been released. The storm triggered floods and mudslides on Aug. 27 that killed at least 31 people. Thirty-five people are still missing. □



In Honor of International Press Day; Aruba Marriott Resorts Celebrates With Local Press



PALM BEACH - Last Sunday, the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino celebrated International Press Day with the local press in honor of their hard work and dedication to their important roles within the community. To show appreciation, the Aruba Marriott invited press members to a succulent brunch at La Vista Restaurant, where the staff made sure to pamper the press members with a great time, courteous service and a memorable experience. To make their special day even brighter, the Aruba Marriott team raffled some great prizes amongst the



group including a weekend stay and a dinner for two. Additionally, all press members received a token of appreciation to try their luck at the Stellaris Casino after brunch. On behalf of the Aruba

Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino, Stacey Banfield, Marketing Communications Manager, thanked the press for their support and efforts throughout the year and wished them continued success. □



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Preparations in Full Swing for 'Eat Local Aruba Restaurant Week'

ORANJESTAD - Starting September 28 and lasting through October 9 2015, the One happy island of Aruba invites guests to explore local culinary delights during the Eat Local Aruba Restaurant Week. Preparations are in full swing for this culinary event, highlighting authentic Aruban cuisine for two full weeks. The restaurants' prix-fixe meals allow visitors to enjoy local cuisine for both lunch and dinner for very reasonable prices. No passes, tickets or vouchers are required—attend-



have already signed up for this new culinary event and are incorporating authentic local dishes in their

week is that "for us, it opens the door for a different audience. People can enjoy the high gastronomic standards of dining at Windows on Aruba without having to dig deep in their pockets." Restaurants that already feature local menus are



ing diners can simply visit their favorite participating restaurants throughout the program dates to enjoy the special menu offerings. More than 55 restaurants

menu. Director of Food & Beverage at Divi Village Golf & Beach Resort Dominique Bauduin says the great thing about restaurant



adding on specials and accenting on the local flavors. Carolina Merryweather-Raven, manager of Driftwood Restaurant says that their seafood restaurant "already features a lot of local dishes, but during the 'Eat Local Aruba Restaurant Week' we will certainly highlight the more authen-



tic Aruban dishes accompanied by locally brewed beverages". This new initiative was developed by the Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) to showcase Aruba's diverse culinary scene and highlight the islands flavors by incorporating locally inspired dishes in the menus of participating restaurants.



Visit www.aruba.com/eatlocal to ensure a table at your favorite restaurant! For more information on the One Happy Island, visit www.aruba.com. Engage with Aruba via social media at www.facebook.com/ArubaFans or @Aruba on Twitter and @aruba-tourism on Instagram. □



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the juice bar, Holiday Inn Desk and at the Concierge & Pelican Pier desk located between Holiday Inn hotel & Playa Linda Resort. Pelican Nest Restaurant offers an impressive selection of fresh seafood (caught daily by our own fleet), International dishes and a relaxing atmosphere. Open daily for dinner reservations call 297-586-2259 from 11 am.

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Expedia Group Reports Rapid Increase in Caribbean Mobile Bookings

ORANJESTAD - New data released by the Expedia group, one of the world's leading travel companies, reveals a healthy increase in mobile bookings within the Caribbean market, with a growth of more than 55 percent in the first half of 2015 when compared to the same timeframe in 2014. Mobile bookings, which have been growing in nearly all of Expedia group's markets, allow travelers to make their travel bookings on the go.

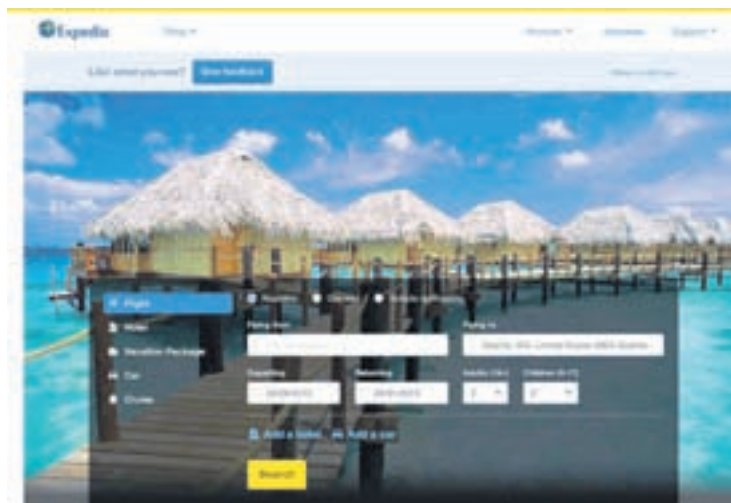
Major markets reporting a growth in mobile transactions in the first two quarters of 2015 include:

-Punta Cana, Dominican Republic: nearly 55 percent increase

-San Juan, Puerto Rico: more than 50 percent increase

-Montego Bay, Jamaica: nearly 50 percent increase

Unique to the Caribbean, Expedia group data indicates that unlike other global Expedia markets, which generally feature



same day bookings on mobile devices, the largest share of Caribbean mobile purchases occur in the 31 - 60 day window. This atypical timeframe provides hotel partners with the opportunity to capitalize on Expedia group's advanced mobile technology by managing prices beforehand to secure optimal bookings.

"Today's technology has revolutionized the way we do business. Expedia group's cutting-edge mobile applications allow

travelers to plan their trips and book in a convenient, flexible way," said Demetrius Canton, Director of Lodging Partner Services for the Caribbean, the Expedia group. "Expedia group consistently provides expert advice to valued partners on how to take advantage of our various platforms and participate in exclusive mobile promotions, flash sales and more, creating opportunities for both the consumer and the hotelier."

Jonathan Valdez, Execu-

tive Revenue Manager for Royal Resorts, has experienced the benefits of these technology innovations first-hand, saying "[our] Expedia partnership has been a winning relationship and our growth with them has been double digits over the past three years. New Expedia technologies, such as their mobile friendly website or mobile app, have helped make booking reservations faster, easier and safer for our guests."

Hotel partners such as Bahia Principe Hotels in the Dominican Republic have experienced significant results utilizing Expedia group's mobile platforms. By taking advantage of Expedia group's powerful technology and providing exclusive mobile promotions, the brand has generated nearly 120 percent growth in mobile bookings during the first half of the year when compared to the same time in 2014. "Today's technology is ad-

vancing rapidly and we must adapt to these new trends.

We can now manage a tremendous number of our daily life activities through the use of mobile devices, and planning a vacation is no exception. Our business strategy has been tailored to capture this audience through dynamic actions, and as a result we have obtained significant growth in the first two quarters of the year, which in part is due to our partnership with Expedia," stated Ana Medina, Ecommerce Manager for the Americas, Bahia Principe Hotel & Resorts.

The Expedia group provides hotel partners with access to tremendous volume and variety of travelers worldwide through more than 150 websites in more than 70 countries worldwide, in addition to a myriad of mobile sites and apps, from brands such as Expedia®, Hotels.com®, Hotwire®, Egencia®, Travelocity® and Venere®. □



U.S. Open



Andy Murray, of the United Kingdom, reacts after a point against Adrian Mannarino, of France, during the second round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015, in New York.

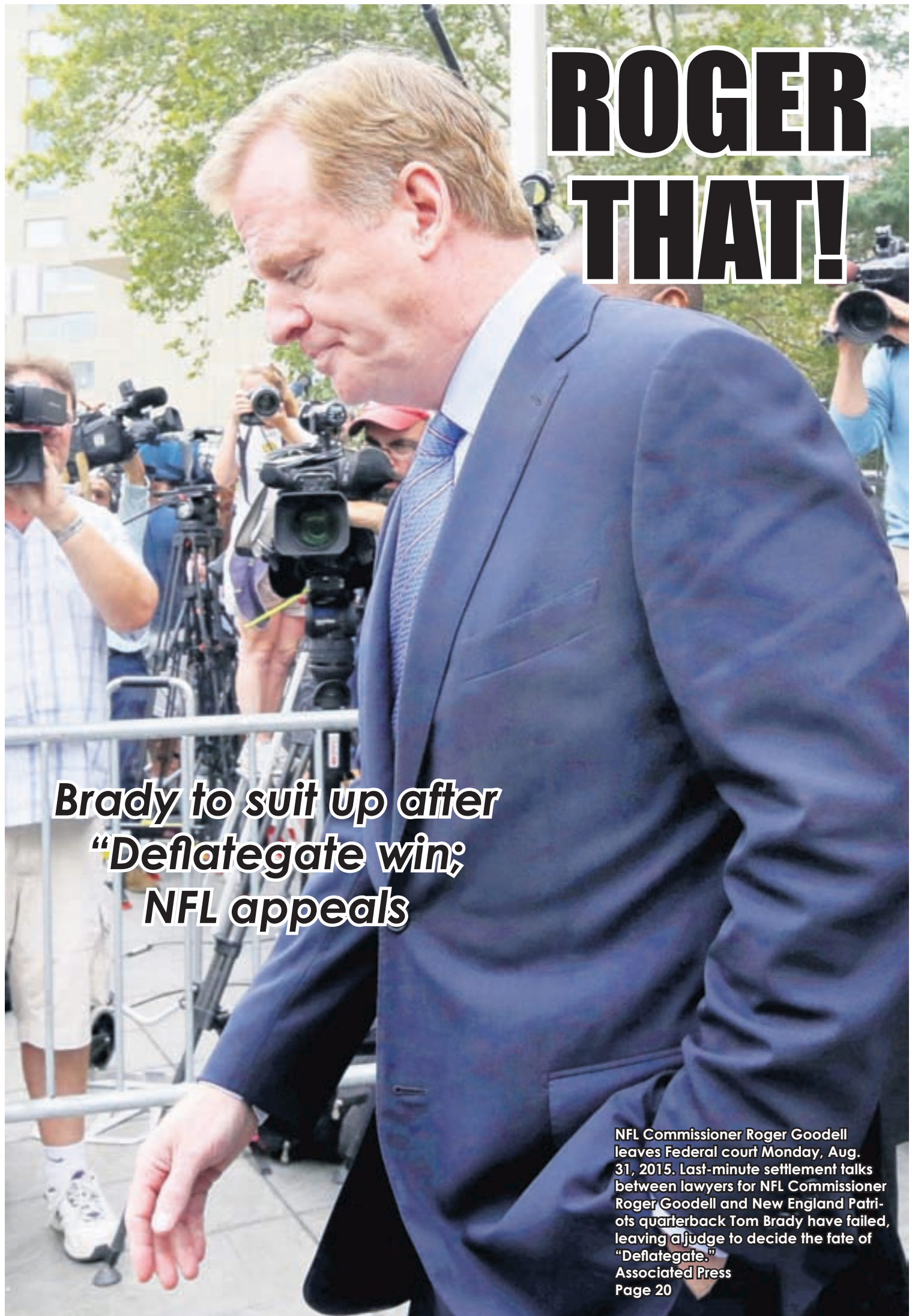
Associated Press

Down 2 sets, Murray comes back to win

HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Tennis Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Before they stepped on court, there was nothing to suggest Andy Murray would have any trouble against Adrian Mannarino in the U.S. Open's second round. Murray, after all, is seeded No. 3, owns two major championships including at Flushing Meadows in 2012, and had reached at least the quarterfinals at the last 18 Grand Slam tournaments he'd entered. Mannarino, meanwhile, is ranked 35th, has never won a tour-level title, and only three times in his career has even managed to win more than one match at a major. So it certainly came as a surprise when, in Thursday's opening game, Mannarino broke Murray. About an hour later, Mannarino grabbed the opening set. And 45 minutes after that, the Frenchman took the second set, too.

Continued on page 21



**ROGER
THAT!**

*Brady to suit up after
'Deflategate' win;
NFL appeals*

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell leaves Federal court Monday, Aug. 31, 2015. Last-minute settlement talks between lawyers for NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell and New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady have failed, leaving a judge to decide the fate of "Deflategate."
Associated Press
Page 20

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Kershaw's 15 Ks lead Dodgers over Giants 2-1

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Clayton Kershaw struck out 15 to set a season career high with 251, Chase Utley hit a go-ahead homer in the sixth inning and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the San Francisco Giants 2-1 on Wednesday night for a series sweep that increased their NL West lead to 6 1/2 games.

The second-place Giants' fifth straight loss left them facing their largest division deficit of the season. All three defeats to the Dodgers were by a run and they have just 11 runs during their skid.

Giants manager Bruce Bochy was ejected for the second straight game.

Kershaw (12-6) beat the Giants for the first time in four starts this season. He allowed one run and six hits and walked one on a career high-tying 132 pitches for his third complete game of the season.

The left-hander leads the National League in strikeouts, surpassing his career best of 248 set in 2011. He tied a career high with the 15 strikeouts after having 14 against the Chicago Cubs in his previous start. Kershaw became the first NL pitcher to strike out 250 in a season since the Giants' Tim Lincecum had 261 in 2009.

Mike Leake (9-7) was the loser. He's winless in five starts since the Giants acquired him from Cincinnati on July 30.

REDS 7, CUBS 4

CHICAGO (AP) — Joey Votto hit a three-run homer in the ninth inning that was



Los Angeles Dodgers' Clayton Kershaw celebrates the team's 2-1 win against the San Francisco Giants in a baseball game, Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2015, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

set up by third baseman Kris Bryant's two-out error, and Cincinnati beat Chicago.

Bryant hit a two-run homer in the eighth that made it 4-all. The rookie has 22 home runs and 84 RBIs.

Cubs closer Hector Rondon (5-3) retired the first two batters in the ninth. Jason Bourgeois, who homered earlier, followed with a single. Jay Bruce then hit a hard grounder that went through Bryant's legs for an error, and Votto connected for his 27th home run.

J.J. Hoover (7-0) got the win despite allowing Bryant's homer. Aroldis Chapman closed for his 27th save.

Tommy La Stella and Anthony Rizzo hit solo home runs for the Cubs.

METS 9, PHILLIES 4

NEW YORK (AP) — Ruben Tejada hit an inside-the-

park homer and drove in four runs to back Matt Harvey as New York returned to its winning ways against Philadelphia.

Yoenis Cespedes and rookie Michael Conforto had conventional home runs for the NL East leaders. They won for the 14th time in 16 games against the last-place Phillies this season. Philadelphia snapped a 10-game losing streak to the Mets with a 14-8 rout Tuesday.

Travis d'Arnaud doubled twice and singled and Cespedes had three hits as well, one night after he homered to stop an 0-for-16 slide. Handed a 6-0 lead, Harvey (12-7) pitched into the seventh inning and won his fourth straight decision.

Prized rookie Aaron Nola (5-2) was the loser.

NATIONALS 4, CARDINALS 3

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Ryan Zimmerman homered twice, then doubled home the tiebreaking run in the eighth inning and Washington beat St. Louis to end a nine-game losing streak.

Zimmerman reached 200 career home runs with his second shot. Jayson Werth also homered for the Nationals.

Nationals starter Max Scherzer struck out 11, gave up 11 hits and left with a 3-2 lead after the sixth. Johnathon Papelbon earned his 23rd save in 23 chances, escaping a first-and-third, one-out jam in the ninth. Rafael Martin (1-0) got one out for his first career victory. Johnathan Broxton (1-4) took the loss.

Brandon Moss hit a 454-foot homer for St. Louis.

BREWERS 9, PIRATES 4

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Jonathan Lucroy drove in three runs and extended his hitting streak to a career high-tying 10 games to help Milwaukee beat Pittsburgh for the fifth straight time.

The Brewers have won seven of their last eight against Pittsburgh.

Adam Lind homered, singled and drove in two runs for Milwaukee.

Reliever Jeremy Jeffress (4-0) picked up the win after tossing a perfect seventh and eighth innings. He came in with a 6-4 lead and was awarded the victory — starter Zach Davies lasted only 4 1-3 innings in his big league debut. Jeff Locke (7-9) was tagged for five runs and nine hits in 3 2-3 innings.

Former Brewers star Aramis

Ramirez drove in all four runs for the Pirates, including a three-run homer in the fourth. Ramirez added an RBI double in the fifth in his first series at Miller Park since being dealt to Pittsburgh in late July.

the White Sox.

MARLINS 7, BRAVES 3

ATLANTA (AP) — Marcell Ozuna hit a two-run homer, Martin Prado and Jeff Mathis each had two RBIs and Miami beat reeling Atlanta to complete a three-game sweep.

Moving past the Braves and into third place in the NL East for the first time since May 14, the Marlins earned their second three-game sweep in Atlanta and first since April 2009.

The Braves have lost eight straight at home for the first time since beginning the 1988 season 0-9. Atlanta has dropped 19 of 22 overall and is 12-37 since July 8, worst in the majors.

Hector Olivera drove in two runs for the Braves with his first career hit.

Adam Conley (3-1) won his second straight start, allowing four hits, three runs and three walks with four strikeouts in five innings. Williams Perez (4-6) was the loser.

ROCKIES 9, DIAMONDBACKS 4

DENVER (AP) — Carlos Gonzalez homered twice, including a grand slam, and finished with a career-high seven RBIs in Colorado's victory over Arizona.

Gonzalez had his 15th career multi-homer game, is tied with Nolan Arenado for the team lead with 33 home runs. Arenado also homered. □



AL Capsules

Dickey throws 4-hitter, Jays beat Indians 5-1

The Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — R.A. Dickey pitched a four-hitter to win his seventh straight decision, Josh Donaldson had three hits and Toronto beat Cleveland.

Toronto won for the fifth time in six games and maintained a 1 1/2-game lead over the New York Yankees in the AL East.

Dickey (10-10) threw 92 pitches, including 68 strikes, in his second complete game of the season and 15th of his career. He's unbeaten in 10 starts, dating to a July 9 road loss against the White Sox.

Dickey set down 14 straight before Jason Kipnis hit a one-out single in the ninth. Francisco Lindor ended it by grounding into a double play. Donaldson went 3 for 4 with three RBIs, raising his ML-leading total to 111. Cleveland right-hander Trevor Bauer (10-11) gave up five runs and six hits in 1 1/3 innings. Donaldson and Troy Tulowitzki each had RBI singles in the first and Donaldson chased Bauer with a two-run double in the second.

YANKEES 13, RED SOX 8

BOSTON (AP) — Greg Bird, John Ryan Murphy and Carlos Beltran homered during an eight-run second inning and New York beat Boston.

Stephen Drew doubled during New York's big inning and added a three-run homer in the third. Didi Gregorius later homered for the Yankees.

Masahiro Tanaka (11-6) pitched into the seventh inning to help the Yan-

kees won for the fifth time in six games. New York improved to 7-2 against the Red Sox at Fenway Park this season and 10-5 overall this season against their longtime rivals.

The win was the 800th of Yankees manager Joe Girardi's career. He guided the Marlins for one year and is in eighth season with New York.

Red Sox rookie Henry Owens (2-2) retired the first four batters in order but the next eight Yankees reached base safely, with one out coming on the basepaths.

ANGELS 9, ATHLETICS 4

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Albert Pujols hit a two-run drive to make him one of four players with 10 career 35-home run seasons, and Los Angeles jumped on Oakland ace Sonny Gray. Pujols had an RBI single in the first inning, then hit his 555th career homer in the second. He joined Hall of Famers Willie Mays (10) and Mike Schmidt (11) and Yankees slugger Alex Rodriguez (12) to have reached 35 home runs in 10 or more years.

Andrew Heaney (6-2) struck out six and didn't walk a batter in seven innings to end a six-start winless stretch. He had gone 0-2 since a victory against Texas on July 26.

Gray (12-7) lost his third straight decision, matching his career high with six earned runs for the first time since exactly a year earlier on Sept. 2, 2014, at Seattle.

ORIOLES 7, RAYS 6, 11 INNING

BALTIMORE (AP) — Chris Davis homered on a 3-0 pitch from Matt Andriese leading off the 11th inning, and Baltimore beat Tampa Bay to snap a six-game losing streak. □



Toronto Blue Jays' Josh Donaldson, right, scores past Cleveland Indians catcher Yan Gomes on a sacrifice fly by Troy Tulowitzki during the second inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2015, in Toronto. Associated Press

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Judge sides with Brady on 'Deflategate,' NFL appeals

**LARRY NEUMEISTER
TOM HAYS**

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Tom Brady learned Thursday he will start the season on the field after a judge lifted the league's four-game suspension of the star quarterback for a scandal over deflated footballs, saying he was treated unfairly by NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell. The league quickly appealed.

U.S. District Judge Richard M. Berman criticized Goodell for dispensing "his own brand of industrial justice" as he found multiple reasons to reject the suspension one week before New England's Sept. 10 opener against the Pittsburgh Steelers.

The Super Bowl MVP has insisted he played no role in a conspiracy to deflate footballs below the allowable limit at last season's AFC championship game, a 45-7 rout of the Indianapolis Colts.

The judge cited "several significant legal deficiencies" in the league's handling of the controversy, including no advance notice of potential penalties, a refusal to produce a key witness and the apparent first-ever discipline of a player based on a finding of "general awareness" of someone else's wrongdoing. "Because there was no notice of a four-game suspension in the circum-



New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady leaves Federal court, Monday, Aug. 31, 2015, in New York. Associated Press

stances presented here, Commissioner Goodell may be said to have 'dispensed his own brand of industrial justice,'" Berman wrote, partially citing wording from a previous case. He said a player's right to know what constitutes violations and what penalties are was "at the heart" of the collective bargaining agreement "and, for that matter, of our criminal and civil justice systems."

"The court finds that Brady had no notice that he could receive a four-game suspension for general awareness of ball defla-

tion by others," the judge wrote.

Goodell said it was necessary to appeal "to uphold the collectively bargained responsibility to protect the integrity of the game."

He called the need to secure the game's competitive fairness "a paramount principle." Hours after Goodell issued his statement, the league appealed to the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan with a one-page notice from NFL attorney Daniel Nash.

NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said the league

would not seek an emergency stay, freeing Brady to play while the case is appealed. It could be months before the court considers the case, since the league would have to show it would suffer irreparable harm to speed up the timetable.

Goodell will also skip the Steelers-Patriots opener next week, opting instead to watch the game on TV and attend another opener over the weekend, McCarthy said. McCarthy said Goodell wants the focus to be on the game itself and New England's celebration of its Super Bowl win.

The union's executive director, DeMaurice Smith, said in a statement the ruling proves the contract with the NFL doesn't grant Goodell "the authority to be unfair, arbitrary and misleading."

Patriots owner Robert Kraft called Brady a "classy person of the highest integrity"

and the penalty against him "unwarranted and unprecedented discipline." He said the ruling was thoughtful.

Berman said the league was wrong to discipline Brady as if a deflating ball accusation was equal to using performance enhancing drugs.

Brady was also denied equal access to investigative files, including witness interview notes, and wasn't permitted to question one of two lead investigators, the judge said.

The Patriots, who were fined \$1 million and stripped of two draft picks, posted a celebratory photo on Twitter of Brady pumping his fist and screaming at the Super Bowl last season.

The ruling was a surprise to some legal experts who believed Berman was merely pressuring the league to settle at two hearings when he criticized its handling of the investigation over the last eight months.

The league brought the case to court within minutes of Goodell upholding Brady's suspension, blasting the quarterback for arranging the destruction of his cellphone and its nearly 10,000 messages just before he was interviewed for the NFL probe. The union countersued.

The league spent more than \$3 million for its investigation by prominent attorney Ted Wells, who had previously conducted NFL probes. While Wells' 243-page report found it was "more probable than not" that two Patriots ball handling employees deliberately released air from Patriots game balls at the AFC championship game, it cited no direct evidence that Brady knew about or authorized it. □

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U.S. Open

Continued from page 17

"I just had to kind of tell myself that I would get there eventually," Murray said. "I had time to get back into it."



Roger Federer, of Switzerland, follows through on a backhand to Steve Darcis, of Belgium, during the second round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015.

Associated Press

Despite a stuffy nose and scratchy throat, and generally looking as if he might be ready to wilt on another steamy day at Flushing Meadows — two more mid-match retirements, including by 28th-seeded Jack Sock of the United States, raised the total to 12 in the men's draw so far — Murray put together his eighth career comeback from a two-set deficit and beat Mannarino 5-7, 4-6, 6-1, 6-3, 6-1.

"He was looking for his rhythm," Mannarino said, "and then I think that finally he found it."

Roger Federer had his rhythm from the start, compiling a 46-8 edge in winners while beating Steve Darcis of Belgium 6-1, 6-2, 6-1 at night, before 2014 runner-up Caroline Wozniacki was to meet Petra Cetkovska in the day's last match.

Against Murray, Mannarino, a lefty, delivered 12 of the match's first 14 forehand winners and repeatedly found success with drop shots.

But his play eventually dipped, while Murray really cleaned up his own act after the rough start: He went

from making 21 unforced errors in the first two sets to only 14 the rest of the way. "He has such an unorthodox game, I didn't really feel that comfortable at many points," Murray said. "But I was happy, very hap-

py when Bemelmans walked around the net and leaned over for a handshake.

"I didn't have too much difficulty," said Bemelmans, who will face French Open champion Stan Wawrinka next. Sock didn't hold a

py, with the way I fought through that, finished the match stronger than him." Early in the fourth set, Murray doubled over and rested his hands on his knees after a couple of points, the sort of thing the Brit has been known to do during matches — appearing weary or injured yet able to still play well.

"Who knows? Maybe he (is) — not faking — but sometimes (feeling) tired, even if he's not," Mannarino said.

Murray's explanation?

"That's, I think, what a lot of people do when they're out of breath or tired," he said. Sock took the opening two sets against 107th-ranked Ruben Bemelmans of Belgium and was three games away from winning in the third, but his body seized up because of cramps, unable to deal with the heat that topped 90 degrees (32 Celsius).

In a scary scene early in the fourth set, less than two hours in, Sock froze in place, his legs locked. A trainer helped the 22-year-old American sit down near the baseline, and Sock appeared to have trouble even extending his arm

news conference, instead releasing a statement that called his retirement "extremely disappointing."

There are only two American men remaining of the 16 who were in the draw: No. 13 John Isner and unseeded Donald Young.

"It's tough to see," Isner said about Sock's cramping. "It's not a fitness thing. I think that's a big, big misconception. He's in very good shape. He can play 50-ball rallies if he wants to. But he sweats a lot. ... His body was at a deficit of whatever it is — sodium, magnesium, potassium."

Denis Istomin of Uzbekistan stopped playing against 20th-seeded Dominic Thiem of Austria, citing an injured right leg.

Including two retirements by women, 14 players have stopped playing during matches because of injury or illness, tying the 2011 U.S. Open for the most through the first two rounds at a Grand Slam tournament.

"Maybe it's the end of the year — players are not as fit ... as in the beginning of the year," Bemelmans said. "It's the humidity, the heat — it's all these combinations." □

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SUN & HOL 2:10 | 4:30 | 6:50 | 9:10

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REFUELED

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FRI 8:00 | 10:20
SAT 8:00 | 10:20
SUN & HOL 8:00

LAKE BELL | OWEN WILSON

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NO ESCAPE

MON-THURS 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30
FRI 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50
SAT 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30

JAMES RANSONE | SHANNYN SOSSAMON

SINISTER II

MON-THURS 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25
FRI 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25 | 11:40
SAT 2:40 | 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25 | 11:40
SUN & HOL 2:40 | 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25

O'SHEA JACKSON JR. | COREY HAWKINS

STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON

MON-THURS 5:50 | 8:50
FRI 5:50 | 8:50
SAT 2:50 | 5:50 | 8:50
SUN & HOL 2:50 | 5:50 | 8:50

RUPERT FRIEND | HANNAH WARE

HITMAN
AGENT 47

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 5:00 | 7:20 | 9:40
FRI 5:00 | 7:20 | 9:40 | 12:00
SAT 2:40 | 5:00 | 7:20 | 9:40 | 12:00
SUN & HOL 2:40 | 5:00 | 7:20 | 9:40

ED HELMS | CHRISTINA APPLEGATE

VACATION

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20
FRI 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SAT 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20

TOM CRUISE | JEREMY RENNER

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Merritt beats world champion Van Niekerc to win 400

DANIELLA MATAR

Associated Press

ZURICH (AP) — LaShawn Merritt edged a thrilling finish in the 400 meters at the Weltklasse Zurich on Thursday, earning partial revenge for losing to Wayde van Niekerc at the world championships last month. Merritt won in 44.18 seconds, 0.10 ahead of Grenada's Kirani James — who claimed bronze in Beijing — and 0.17 ahead of Van Niekerc, the South African who left his kick too late. Merritt, world champ in 2009 and 2013 and Olympic champ in 2008, made a great start, and powered past James after 150 meters on a track still wet from earlier rains at Letzigrund Stadium.

"I just wanted to win," the American said. "You just have to go to work in any kind of weather."

James' second spot was enough to hand him the Diamond Race season title in front of a sell-out crowd of around 25,000 vociferous fans.

"I'm very tired now but I'm nothing but thankful to these guys," James said. "Merritt was great tonight. The prize itself doesn't mean much to me, these fans are a diamond trophy themselves."

World champion Shelley-Ann Fraser-Pryce was one of 15 others who secured



LaShawn Merritt from USA, right, competes next to Kirani James from Grenada, left, in the men's 400m race during the IAAF Diamond League athletics meeting in the Letzigrund stadium in Zurich, Switzerland, Thursday, Sept.3, 2015.

Diamond Race titles after the Jamaican won the 100 in 10.93.

Fraser-Pryce was sporting another new hairstyle after clinching a third world championship with her plaits dyed green and a headband of daisies around her forehead. She was back in long braids, and the result was the same for the sprint supremo, who is unbeaten since May.

She finished half a second

ahead of Blessing Okagbare after the Nigerian put on a fantastic performance following the disappointment of her last place in Beijing. American Tori Bowie was again third, 0.13 behind Fraser-Pryce.

"There is no more to ask for: I won the world championships and the Diamond Race," Fraser-Pryce said. "I'm glad I finished first here. "It's not easy to race again in such a close time. I need-

ed to adjust again but we are used to it, we are professional athletes."

There were 18 other individual world champions from Beijing competing in Zurich, although the all-star cast didn't include Usain Bolt or Justin Gatlin.

Without that duo, whose intriguing battle dominated the sprints at the worlds, Alonso Edward of Panama won the 200 in 20.03 to take the Diamond Race title.

Associated Press

Edward, who was fourth in Beijing, was 0.17 ahead of Rasheed Dwyer. Anaso Jobodwana was third — just as he was at the worlds — 0.21 behind Edward.

Greg Rutherford added the Diamond League trophy to his Olympic, world, and European titles in the long jump. The Briton jumped 8.32 meters to beat America's Marquis Dendy.

Fabrice LaPierre of Australia, runner-up in Beijing, cleared a season's best of 8.27 to finish third.

"This victory means a hell of a lot to me," said Rutherford, who also holds the Commonwealth title. "It is the last crown for me. I am pleased."

In another highly competitive event, world champion and double European champion Sergey Shubenkov of Russia won the 110 hurdles in 12.98 seconds. Former world champ David Oliver of the U.S. beat Cuban Orlando Ortega to second place and the Diamond Race title, with both finishing 0.16 behind Shubenkov. Jason Richardson, the 2011 world champion, was sixth.

Ivana Spanovic set a new Serbia record of 7.02 meters to win the long jump. She broke her own record, which she set on her way to claiming bronze in Beijing. □



Team Sky's Chris Froome of Britain, right, and his team compete in a 7.4 kilometer team time trial from Puerto Banus to Marbella during the first stage of La Vuelta cycling race in the province of Malaga, Spain, Saturday, Aug. 22, 2015.

Associated Press

LLEIDA, Spain (AP) — Danny Van Poppel of the Netherlands won the 12th stage of the Spanish Vuelta in a mass sprint for the finish line, while Fabio Aru remained

in the red jersey on Thursday.

Van Poppel recovered well after repairing a tire 10 kilometers (six miles) from the end of the 173-kilometer

Van Poppel wins 12th Spanish Vuelta stage, Aru leads overall

(107-mile) mainly downhill ride from Andorra through the Pyrenees Mountains to Lleida. Daryl Impey of South Africa was second, and Tosh Van der Sande of Belgium third, both on the same time as Van Poppel. "When you've got the chance you've got to go for it," Van Poppel said. "In the end, it was a really nice sprint."

His father Jean-Paul was also a sprint specialist, while his mother Leontien van der Liended, and his older brother Boy — who finished 153rd on Thursday — are also professional cyclists.

Van Poppel said the repair was inevitable: "It wasn't a puncture, but it was slowly going down, so I changed it, and my teammates did a great job to bring me back," he said.

"I suffered a lot yesterday, and I really wanted to win today." John Degenkolb of Germany, who won four stages last year and none so far this year, tried hard to catch the lead sprinters but mistimed his charge, and banged his fist on the handlebars as he crossed the line. Aru leads Joaquin Rodriguez of Spain overall by 27 seconds, while Tom

Dumoulin of Netherlands was third, 30 seconds adrift. Tour de France champion Chris Froome announced on Twitter on Thursday that he pulled out after breaking a bone in his right foot the day before.

He hit a barrier shortly after the start on Wednesday, and finished the stage, but dropped to 15th overall, more than seven minutes behind Aru.

The 13th stage on Friday is a 178-kilometer (111-mile) mountainous ride from Calatayud to Tarazona, including the category 1 Alto de Beraton summit. □

Apple, Google bring smartphone functions to car dashboards

RYAN NAKASHIMA

AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Playing deeJay with voice commands will get easier for more Americans this fall as some best-selling cars get updated with software that integrates smartphones into the dashboard.

With the 2016 model year, Apple's CarPlay and Google's Android Auto will turn cars as affordable as a base model Chevy Spark into rolling robotic assistants that give directions to nearby restaurants or play the latest hits with commands as simple as "Play Ellie Goulding."

The Associated Press recently tried out both systems on a 2016 Honda Accord. As with phones, voice-activated car technologies don't always work as intended, bringing up inaccurate directions or failing to open an app, for example. But overall the two systems are convenient and incredibly intuitive.

Both CarPlay and Android Auto should give drivers more time to keep their eyes on the road compared with the automakers' own voice systems, which can require multiple steps and looking at on-screen menus. Still, as with any system that requires driver input, there are concerns about distraction.

"Anything that takes your attention away from the task of driving is not something you want to engage in," said Kathy Lane, a spokeswoman for the National Safety Council, a nonprofit organization created by Congress to promote safety.

Neither system has been tested yet by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, says spokesman Russ Rader. The institute studies both human and mechanical factors in trying to reduce the number of vehicle crashes.

Consumers increasingly want to use their smartphone while driving —

without running afoul of the law. For the last few years, drivers of most new cars have been able to speak to their phones and have audio stream through a car's speakers using the nearly ubiquitous Bluetooth wireless standard. However, doing so can require fiddling with the phone, like holding down the home button first.

Both CarPlay and Android Auto allow voice commands to be turned on with a touch of a steer-

body That I Used to Know," if you were wondering.) However, you can use your voice to play songs you have downloaded and own on your iPhone.

The less restrictive Android Auto will allow you to use apps like Spotify as long as you specifically tell it to "play Aerosmith on Spotify," or set Spotify as the default music app. A Spotify subscription also costs \$10 a month.

The systems themselves can cost users a lot more.

the Accord shopper," says Jay Guzowski, manager of product planning for mid-size cars at American Honda Motor Co.

General Motors stands alone in offering CarPlay and Android Auto as standard equipment on cars as inexpensive as the Spark — the 2015 version retails for upward of \$12,170 — and as high-volume as its Chevrolet Cruze and Malibu sedans and Silverado trucks. Chevrolet marketing director Steve Majoros calls the

CarPlay and Android Auto are, they aren't perfect.

On a quick demo of a fully-loaded, coffee-colored 2016 Accord Touring, the Android Auto voice assistant helped me play songs from artists like Adele, Sting and Ellie Goulding but would not recognize "U2" as anything other than "YouTube." It also failed to open the iHeart Radio app despite being told to (a later check showed the app hadn't been set up to recognize its location, which may have thrown a wrench into things).

CarPlay users won't be able to use the superior Google Maps through the interface, even if the app is on their phone. In the demo, Apple's notoriously quirky maps app directed me to drive to Honda's American headquarters in Torrance through the research and development back way, bypassing the front driveway and visitor parking lot even though it was a more direct route.

There's still work to be done on making the integration better.

One problem is that when phones must be plugged in — rather than left in a pocket or purse — usage of Internet-connected

apps goes way down, says Pandora's vice president of automotive business development, Geoff Snyder. "When it's required for use of the system, utilization falls off pretty dramatically." So for now, certain automaker-made infotainment systems with apps will be more convenient for people who just want to get in their cars and go.

Apple software engineering executive Craig Federighi said in June that the iOS 9 mobile operating system update coming this fall will make CarPlay work without taking out your iPhone. But according to Apple, that may require another hardware update from automakers: support for Wi-Fi.



In this Thursday, Aug. 20, 2015 photo, Chris Martin from Honda North America demonstrates Apple CarPlay in Torrance, Calif. Associated Press

ing wheel button. Phones need to be plugged into the USB port, where the phone is kept charging and powering the in-car entertainment. You can access maps, voice-mail, phone contacts and music apps using a touch screen embedded in the dashboard — no need to grab your phone.

One wrinkle is that Apple reserves voice commands for its proprietary apps — phone, maps, texts and Apple Music. That means the magical ability for iPhone users to ask the digital voice assistant Siri such complicated tasks as "play the top song from 2011" will only work if you're paying \$10 a month for Apple Music. (It's Gotye's "Some-

The 2016 Honda Accord EX with manual transmission is the lowest trim on which Honda is offering CarPlay and Android Auto support. At \$25,480, the EX is \$1,315 pricier than the Sport trim, and includes things like a moon roof, keyless remote and a better touch-screen display. Volkswagen's entry level 2016 Jetta 1.4T at \$17,680 offers CarPlay and Android Auto as part of a \$995 technology upgrade that includes a larger touch screen and rearview camera.

Some automakers believe that such features could motivate buyers to move up the trim level, rather than to more expensive models. "It's going to provide a good benefit to

decision "revolutionary," and one the automaker hopes will improve its market share.

"CarPlay and Android Auto are about to really hit the mainstream," says Kelly Blue Book senior analyst Karl Brauer. "We're talking about some 40 to 50 models that'll have it in probably the next 12 months or less, which is maybe about 20 percent of the entire car market."

IHS analyst Colin Bird predicts that automakers in the U.S. and Canada will sell a modest 497,000 cars with CarPlay, Android Auto or both this year. The number should jump to 5 million in 2018 and nearly 10 million in 2020.

As smart and helpful as the

Stocks gain as EU central bank says it's ready to act

KEN SWEET

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks moved slightly higher Thursday as markets calmed after a recent bout of turmoil. Investors were encouraged by comments from European Central Bank policymakers, who said they were willing to provide more stimulus to the region's economy, if needed.

Investors now turn to Friday, when a key jobs report will be released that could help determine whether or not the Federal Reserve raises interest rates this

Allianz Global Investors. The Fed's two-day meeting begins Sept. 16.

The Dow Jones industrial average added 23.38 points, or 0.1 percent, to 16,374.76. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 2.27 points, or 0.1 percent, to 1,951.13 and the Nasdaq composite fell 16.48 points, or 0.4 percent, to 4,733.50. Stocks started the day solidly higher, but momentum waned as the day dragged on. Major indexes dipped briefly into the red by mid-afternoon before ending mostly higher. Investors were initially en-

pick up. Along with keeping interest rates low, the ECB is pumping 60 billion euros a month into the region's economy through purchases of government and corporate bonds. The program is slated to run at least through September 2016. "Draghi said in 2012 he would do whatever it takes to grow the eurozone economy and he's holding to that promise," said Quincy Krosby, a market strategist at Prudential Financial. European markets jumped on the news. Germany's DAX closed up 2.7 percent, France's CAC-40 rose 2.2

chances of a September interest rate increase have diminished because of signs of weakening global growth and a sell-off in Chinese stocks, many believe the growing U.S. economy may be ready to withstand higher interest rates.

Friday's jobs report for August, a key gauge of how the U.S. economy is doing, could play a big role in guiding that decision by the Fed. Economists are forecasting that employers created 220,000 jobs last month and that the unemployment rate fell to 5.2 percent.

The price of oil followed the stock market higher. U.S. crude rose 50 cents to close at \$46.75 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, a benchmark for international oils used by many U.S. refineries, rose 18 cents to close at \$50.68 a barrel in London.

In other futures trading on the NYMEX:

— Wholesale gasoline rose 1.2 cents to close at \$1.437 a gallon.

— Heating oil rose 1 cent to close at \$1.619 a gallon.

— Natural gas rose 7.7 cents to close at \$2.725 per 1,000 cubic feet.

In other markets, U.S. government bond prices rose. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.16 percent from 2.19 percent late Wednesday. The euro fell to \$1.1134 from \$1.1238. The dollar fell to 119.91 yen from 120.24 yen.

The price of gold fell \$9.10 to settle at \$1,124.50 an ounce, silver rose four cents to \$14.70 an ounce and copper rose six cents to \$2.39 a pound. □



Trader Thomas Ferrigno, right, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. U.S. stocks moved slightly higher Thursday as markets calmed after a recent bout of turmoil.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

month.

"There's a lot of trepidation in the market over what the Fed will do, and it's only getting worse as we get closer to the meeting," said Kristina Hooper, head of investment strategies at

couraged by news out of the European Central Bank, where President Mario Draghi said the bank is ready to give the eurozone a bigger dose of stimulus should inflation across the 19-country bloc fail to

percent and U.K.'s FTSE 100 rose 1.8 percent.

At the same time the ECB is stimulating Europe's economy, the Federal Reserve could raise U.S. interest rates for the first time since the financial crisis. While

Medtronic tops Street 1Q forecasts on sales boost

NEW YORK (AP) — Medtronic Inc. on Thursday reported better-than-expected fiscal first-quarter profit on a boost in sales of its heart and surgical devices.

The Dublin-based company earned \$820 million, or 57 cents per share, marking a drop from the prior quarter because of higher costs. Earnings, adjusted for amortization costs and non-recurring costs, came

to \$1.02 per share.

The results surpassed Wall Street expectations. The average estimate of 16 analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research was for earnings of \$1.01 per share. The medical device company reported a 12 percent boost in revenue to \$7.27 billion in the period, partly because the period included an extra week. Fourteen analysts surveyed

by Zacks expected \$7.03 billion. Sales of heart devices rose 15 percent to \$2.57 billion while surgical and monitoring device sales rose 11 percent to \$2.46 billion. Sales at the company's restorative therapy group, which makes neurovascular and other devices, rose 10 percent to \$1.81 billion while diabetes group sales rose 15 percent to \$445 million. Medtronic

expects full-year adjusted earnings in the range of \$4.30 to \$4.40 per share. Analysts surveyed by FactSet expect \$4.38 per share, on average. Medtronic shares have dropped roughly 1 percent since the beginning of the year, while the Standard & Poor's 500 index has dropped slightly more than 5 percent. The stock has risen 12 percent in the last 12 months. □

AP: General Mills sells Green Giant, Le Sueur to B&G Foods for \$765M

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — General Mills is selling its Green Giant and Le Sueur vegetable businesses to B&G Foods Inc. for about \$765 million in cash.

The company has been trying to adapt to shifting U.S. tastes, including a move away from many packaged foods. It took a \$260 million charge in the fourth quarter to write down the value of its Green Giant frozen and canned vegetables business.

The company said at the time that the frozen foods sales have been declining and that people also seemed to be shifting to traditional "blocks" of frozen vegetables, which cost less than the vegetable blends and packages with sauces that Green Giant makes.

General Mills is shifting its focus to cereal and yogurt, as well as driving sales for its small but growing organic and natural foods segment.

The Minneapolis company — whose brands include Cheerios, Betty Crocker and Pillsbury — will still run Green Giant's European business and certain other export markets under license from B&G Foods, but it's cutting free its Green Giant and Le Sueur businesses in the U.S., Canada and some other markets.

General Mills plans to pay off debt and buy back stock with proceeds from the sale. B&G Foods CEO Robert Cantwell said in a written statement that the acquisition will be the Parsippany, New Jersey, company's first entry into the frozen food business and he expects future growth opportunities.

General Mills Inc. anticipates the transaction, is targeted to close by year's end, will add about 5 to 7 cents per share to earnings in 2016, excluding transaction costs and a one-time gain on the sale.

Shares of General Mills gained a penny to \$56.82 in premarket trading. □

American services firms expand rapidly, lifted by strong sales

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. services companies expanded at a healthy pace in August, lifted by robust consumer spending resulting from steady job gains. The Institute for Supply Management said Thursday that its services index slipped to 59 from 60.3 in the previous month. July's reading was the highest

since August 2005, and any reading over 50 indicates expansion.

The index remains at a high level despite the decline and suggests that Americans have been spending freely at retail stores, hotels, restaurants and other firms that make up the index. The ISM is a trade group of purchasing managers. Its services survey covers businesses that employ 90 per-

cent of workers, including construction firms and financial services.

The figures also indicate that China's faltering economy and gyrations in the U.S. stock market have not yet harmed services firms, which make up the bulk of the U.S. economy. Most of the U.S. service sector is "less exposed to weakening in foreign demand, and more exposed

to what increasingly appears to be strengthening domestic demand," says Jim O'Sullivan, chief U.S. economist at High Frequency Economics.

A measure of sales and production fell one point but remained at a solid level of 63.9 in August. A gauge of new orders also fell slightly.

Hiring also expanded, though at a much slower

pace. The survey's measure of job gains fell to 56 from 59.3. That suggests job gains could slow a bit in August compared with July. The government will release the official jobs report for August on Friday. Steady economic growth has meant that nearly 8 million more people are earning paychecks than three years ago, boosting consumer spending. □

Why Friday's US jobs report could affect Americans' finances

CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — With the Federal Reserve edging into the spotlight, Friday's jobs report for August could trigger eventual changes in Americans' financial lives.

That's because a healthy job gain would provide one of the final pieces of evidence the Fed needs to start raising interest rates from record lows on Sept. 17, which many economists expect it to do. It would also send a reassuring signal that global stock-market turmoil and China's slowdown have yet to seriously jar the U.S. economy.

Analysts have forecast that employers produced a healthy increase of 220,000 jobs last month, according to data provider FactSet. Such a gain would extend a hiring streak that

has added an average of 243,000 jobs a month for the past 12 months. Econ-

ployment would raise the probability that the Fed will increase rates for the first



An oil truck passes a "now hiring" sign in Kennedy, Texas. With the Federal Reserve edging into the spotlight, the Friday, Sept. 4, 2015 jobs report could trigger changes in Americans' financial lives. (AP Photo/Eric Gay)

omists have predicted that the unemployment rate dipped to 5.2 percent from 5.3 percent in July.

That rate is within the range that Fed officials have said is consistent with a healthy economy. Combined with another solid job increase, a further drop in unem-

ployment would raise the probability that the Fed will increase rates for the first

time in nine years. Many economists have long predicted that the Fed would lift rates in September. But the turbulence in global stock markets, a U.S. inflation rate persistently below the Fed's target level and a sharp economic slowdown in China have

scrambled their assumptions. Most economists say the Fed will at least want markets to stabilize before they raise rates.

Still, after three years of solid job growth that has put nearly 8 million Americans back to work, Fed officials are probably satisfied with the job market's progress. Eric Rosengren, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, said Tuesday that the Fed's desire to see further improvement in hiring "has largely been met."

Likewise, David Joy, chief market strategist at Ameriprise, said, "I think they feel pretty good about where the job market is."

Once the Fed begins raising borrowing rates, higher rates are likely to eventually ripple through the economy. Americans could face higher costs for mortgages and other

loans, though the increases could be modest and gradual.

But Joy thinks the Fed may still hold off on a rate rise at its next meeting because of China's weakening economy, which has weakened growth in countries that supply it with raw materials, such as Brazil and Australia.

A stumbling global economy and stronger dollar, which makes U.S. exports costlier overseas, could slow growth for the next 12 months, according to Goldman Sachs. In part, that's why Joy thinks a disappointing jobs report could lead the Fed to delay a rate hike, particularly if stock prices plummeted in response. Joseph LaVorgna, chief U.S. economist at Deutsche Bank, notes that job reports for August typically fall short of economists' expectations. □

Judge approves \$415M settlement in Apple, Google wage case

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A federal judge has approved a \$415 million settlement that ends a lengthy legal saga revolving around allegations that Apple, Google and several other Silicon Valley companies illegally conspired to prevent their workers from getting better job offers.

The settlement of a class-action lawsuit will pay more than 64,000 technology workers about \$5,800 apiece. The complaint, filed in 2011, originally

sought \$3 billion in damages that could have been tripled under U.S. antitrust law. Based on that figure, the workers could have received more than \$100,000 apiece if they prevailed at trial.

Nearly \$41 million of the settlement will be paid to lawyers representing the technology workers. That's less than half of the roughly \$85 million in fees that the attorneys had sought.

The approval granted Wednesday by U.S. District Judge Lucy Koh in San Jose, California, dispenses with a case that exposed

internal emails casting former Apple CEO Steve Jobs in an unflattering light. Koh had rejected a \$324.5 million settlement of the case reached last year as inadequate.

Apple Inc., Google Inc., Intel Corp. and Adobe Systems Inc. will pay the revised settlement. Last year, Koh approved a separate settlement requiring Intuit Inc., Pixar Animation Studios and Lucasfilm to pay a \$20 million settlement to resolve allegations made against them in the same case.

The lawsuit depicted Jobs,

who died in 2011, as the conniving ringleader of a scheme designed to minimize the chances that top computer programmers and other talented employees would defect to other technology companies.

Koh approved the latest settlement after finding little resistance to the deal. She said only 67 of the 64,666 workers represented in the case objected to or opted out of the settlement.

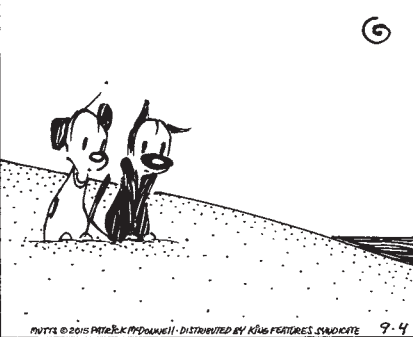
Just six of the workers objected because they thought they weren't get-

ting paid enough in the settlement, according to court documents. One of the unhappy workers estimated that he had been cheated out of \$400,000 because of the alleged collusion among some of Silicon Valley's biggest companies.

The lawsuit accused Apple, Google and the other companies of forming a "no-poaching" cartel that secretly agreed not to recruit each other's workers. Lawyers for the employees argued the pact illegally suppressed the wages of the affected workers. □

Mutts

SO, WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU HAPPY CLAMS?



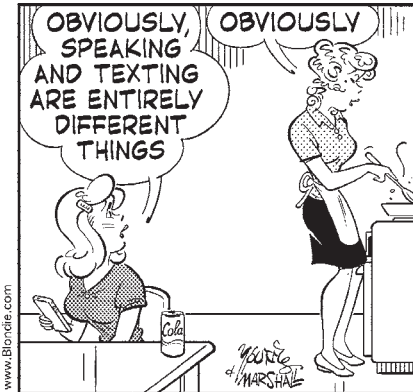
6 Chix

9/4 www.benitaeppstein.com



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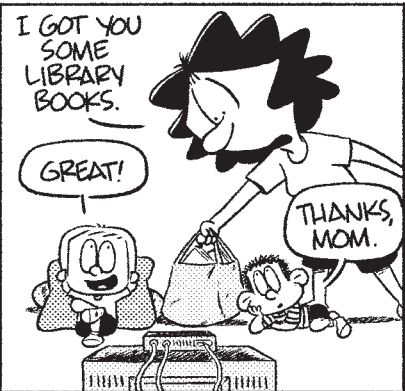
Blondie



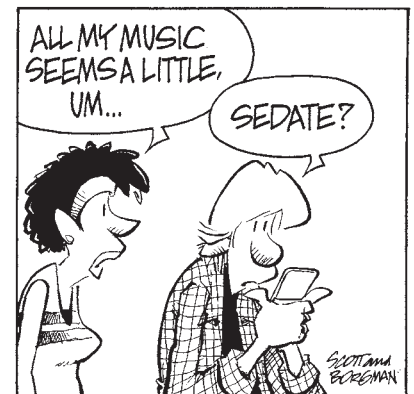
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	5			9			1	
2				6		7	5	
	7							
	1						8	
3			7		1			6
	2						4	
							6	
5		1	2		8			3
	9			5			7	

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

9/04

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

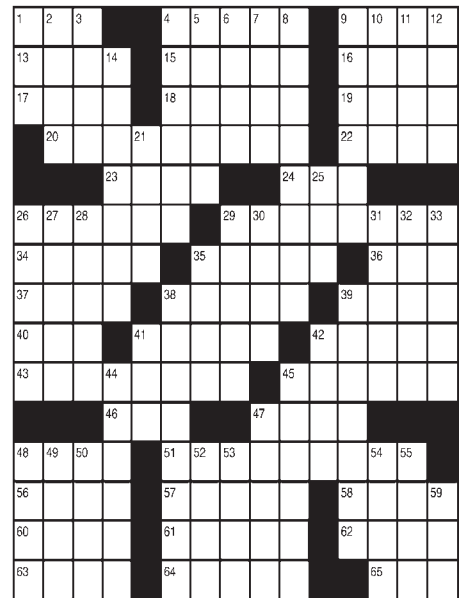
8	7	2	5	1	6	3	9	4
5	9	1	3	4	2	6	7	8
3	6	4	8	7	9	2	1	5
7	1	3	4	6	5	8	2	9
6	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	7
2	4	5	9	8	7	1	3	6
9	5	6	2	3	4	7	8	1
1	3	7	6	9	8	5	4	2
4	2	8	7	5	1	9	6	3

ACROSS

- Fruit spread
- Scottish skirts
- Part of a book jacket
- Cake decorator
- Imbecile
- Cedar Rapids' state
- Kelly or Barry
- "_ Dawn"; hit song for Tanya Tucker
- Christmas _; busy nights for Santa Claus
- Decays through inactivity
- Not as much
- Great buy
- Owned
- Maintenance
- Lesser-known half of a record
- Plaintiffs
- Bush or tree
- Tease
- Fancy vases
- Fork time
- Male children
- OPQ followers
- Boastful
- Slight coloring
- Most annoying
- Human being
- Traveler's stop
- Scuttle chunks
- Crusty wound covering
- Big ocean bird
- Hoopla
- Browned bread
- Smidgen
- Tight _; some football players
- Diminish
- Actor Wyle
- Fit snugly together
- Ne'er-do-well
- Org. for Hawks and Hornets

DOWN

- Irish dance
- Highest cards
- Suffix for move or govern
- Abduct
- Just right
- Uplifting tune
- Carry
- Storing away in a secret place
- Comic W.C. _
- Zero, in tennis
- Astounds
- Go by
- Library patrons
- Words of mild surprise
- Likely
- Take by force, as the throne
- Handbag
- Superman's foster parents
- Disregard openly, as laws
- Come to shore
- Presses, as clothing
- Wild Australian dog
- Actor Buddy
- Experts
- _ care; pregnant woman's need
- Steak type
- Brooch
- Rip
- Put the _ on; nix
- Clay artist
- Social division
- Flower stalk
- Scoop holder
- Finds a total
- Gray wolf
- Sheep cries
- In just a bit
- Jab with a knife
- "Caughtcha!"



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/4/15

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

BARE	DRAFT	SILT
OPEN	RIDER	TRUE
NEST	ALONE	ROTS
EXTREME	CABINET	
USA	GETUP	
AMASS	HER	NEARS
WILT	RAN	ANDREA
ALI	MODESTY	DAB
INGRID	RUE	DODO
TENET	VAN	FIRST
FERAL	MIA	
IMMORAL	GOGGLES	
NEER	PIANO	ROME
FARM	ISAAC	ABOUT
ONES	DEATH	MESS

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9/4/15

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pool side. Unit 107 Aug. 22
\$3500, 2nd wk 36 one bdr 1
bath, 9/5 starts \$4100 2nd wk
37 Studio 9/12 start \$3200 rm
504 king bed, queen, sofa
email: rmwjmw@aol.com
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206999

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1 bedroom weeks from 12 Sept
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\$1000 each
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Studio Sleep 4 Sept 3- 10 Sept
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Marriott Surf Club
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October 2015 \$2000
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TIMESHARE FOR SALE/RENT

Divi Golf and Beach
week 36/ sept.5 start Eagle 3
2 room suite unit 4206. lock off
master b/r, granite kitchen, two
baths, 24 hour security, gated,
washer/dryer luxury furnishing s
sleeps 4, 34 left on contract
steps to affinity pool/bar \$4850
sale (equity value \$12000)
Rent \$1200
email: rmwjmw@aol.com
508-651-0016

204052

TIMESHARE FOR SALE RENAISSANCE

Week	room	price
26	507	\$3,500
26	543	\$5,300
40	105	\$5000
48/49	119	\$4,500
23	343	\$3,000
35	314	\$4,000
30	515	\$4,900
30	311	\$5,000
23	343	\$4,500
27	103	\$4,000
29	134	\$4,500
20&21	347	\$4,500
27	341	\$4,000

Contact Brian Cell: 593-0200
vr.realty@mac.com

203548

TIMESHARE

FOR SALE/RENT

Divi Golf and Beach
week 40, oct. 3 start Eagle 3
ground floor unit 4106. 2 baths,
lock off master b/r, granite
kitchen, gated, elegant
furnishing, washer/ dryer, steps
to affinity pool and bar sleeps 4
sale \$4850 (equity value \$1050)
rent \$1200
email: rmwjmw@aol.com
508-651-0016

207000

TIMESHARE FOR SALE

DIVI PHOENIX WK 36,
1bdm unit 205 starts
on 09/05 \$4150wk34
studio rm 107 pool floor
starts on 8/22 \$3500
and in Divi Village wk
35 rm 128 starts 9/5
\$2800
wk 37 unit 92 studio
starts on 9/12 \$2800
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9394 or US 508 -
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E:mail rmwjmw@aol.com

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NOORD	587-0009
STA. CRUZ	585-4710
SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
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FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
SAN NICOLAS	
AMBULANCE	911

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FUNDACION

Respetami
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Centro Diabetic Arubano
Tel: 524-8888

Narcotics Anonymous

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QUOTA Club

Tel: 525-2672

Women in Difficulties

Foundation
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Bloodbank Aruba
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TODAY BONDIA

How to reach us!

Downtown



Amateur paleontologist finds rare fossil of fish in Arizona

FLAGSTAFF, Arizona (AP)

— Stephanie Leco hit a paleontology jackpot this summer with the discovery of a jaw bone from a long-snouted fish at Petrified Forest known to exist more than 220 million years ago. Leco was part of the first dig for citizens held last month at the national park near Holbrook that routinely turns up fossils from the dawning age of dinosaurs and has vast expanses of rainbow-colored desert.

The fossil about the size of a pinky fingernail was unearthed from the site of what was a lake or pond during the Late Triassic period when the fish were thought to be extinct in North America. Scientists knew closely related fish were present around the world in the Early Triassic period, about 10 million years earlier, but the fossils were found only in China in the Late Triassic, said park paleontologist Bill Parker.

"People who actually study this group of fish might start setting their sights in our direction now," he said.

Leco already had several small teeth in her collection and was marveling at



In this photo taken Saturday, Aug. 8, 2015 and released by the National Parks Service, a group of citizens digs for fossils at Petrified Forest National Park near Holbrook, Ariz.

the tibia of a plant lizard that another participant found before coming across the jaw bone. Not knowing what it was, she handed over the fossil that had broken teeth to Matt Smith, the park's lead fossil preparer, and asked what

it was.

"I don't know, that's why it's cool," he responded. They wrapped up the jaw bone, placed it in a tin and took it to the lab, looking at it more closely under a microscope, she said. The park later emailed her

to say it was a fish closely related to the genus *Saurichthys*.

Leco, 26, said she's since developed an even deeper fascination with paleontology and bought a couple of books on the Triassic period so that she can

speak with authority about her find. The period, which started about 250 million years ago and lasted 50 million years, followed the largest extinction of life on Earth when the land mass was a single continent and had the first dinosaurs.

The full jaw of the fish would be about three to four times longer than the fossil Leco discovered, Parker said. He said other fossils of the fish might also be found on the East Coast and on the Colorado Plateau where similar rock is exposed.

Ben Kligman, a senior at the University of California, Berkley, has been studying the pond site preserved in a layer of rock. He plans to return to Petrified Forest next summer to look for a full fossil of the fish to determine whether or not it's a new species. What he didn't know before Leco found the jaw bone is that he already had smaller pieces of the fish that he couldn't identify as such, he said.

"Although it's probably a new species, we can't say that it is yet because we don't have enough specimens," Kligman said. □

Associated Press

New NASA soil moisture satellite loses 1 science instrument

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A NASA satellite launched seven months ago has lost use of one of two science instruments, but the agency says the mission to map global soil moisture will continue.

NASA said Wednesday that its radar stopped transmitting on July 7 because of an amplifier problem, and an anomaly team was formed at Jet

Propulsion Laboratory to determine if it could be restored.

An attempt to power up the radar on Aug. 24 was unsuccessful, and it was determined that it was not recoverable.

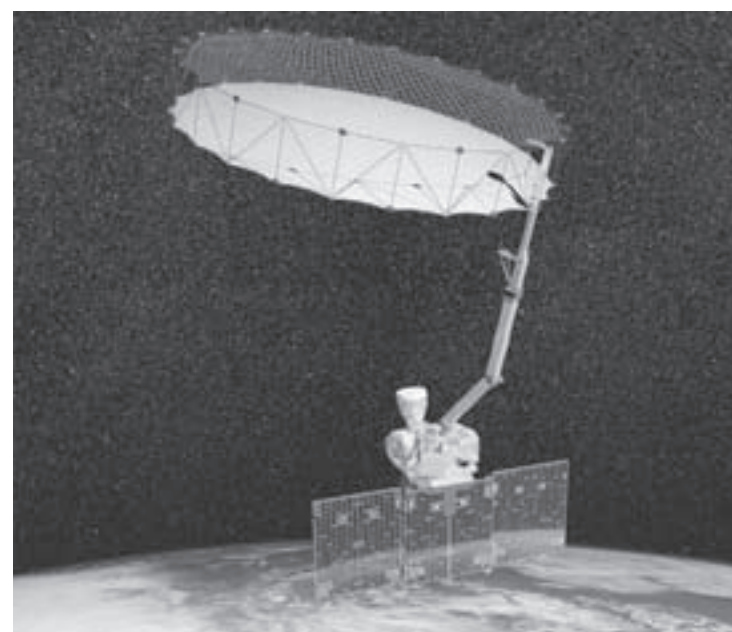
The satellite — dubbed Soil Moisture Active Passive — was launched on Jan. 31. Science operations began in April, and it collected nearly three months of

data with the radar.

NASA says some applications of data will be affected, but the satellite will still produce valuable science. □

This undated image provided by NASA shows NASA's Soil Moisture Active Passive (SMAP) observatory mission, launched in January to map global soil moisture and detect whether soils are frozen or thawed.

Associated Press





In this Aug. 19, 2015 file photo, Dana Delany arrives at the premiere of "Hand of God" in Los Angeles. Associated Press

Dana Delany talks about new series & her love of France

ALICIA RANCILIO
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — In her new Amazon original series, "Hand of God," Dana Delany is the exasperated wife of a man — played by Ron Perlman — who seems to be having a breakdown as their son lies in a coma. Delany says she couldn't be happier working with Perlman, star of "Sons of Anarchy" for six seasons. "We just both like to act. There's no drama around the drama," she said in a recent interview. "We just like doing what we do and that's it."

"Sometimes I would come back to my trailer and there would be like chocolate bars sitting on my little station and he would like leave me little gifts like that because he knew I liked chocolate. So sweet."

The 10-episode season of "Hand of God" will be available to Amazon Prime members on Friday.

"I was very curious, because when I signed on it was over a year and a half ago — and that was before 'Transparent' had become the hit that it is, (and) it seemed like this was the future," said Delany, known for her roles in the TV series "China Beach," "Desperate Housewives" and "Body of Proof."

She will also appear this fall in the miniseries "Une chance de trop," based on Harlan Coben's novel "No Second Chance," on the

TF1 network in France.

"When I did 'Desperate Housewives,' (it was) huge in France," the 59-year-old actress said. "They love that version of America. They think it's hilarious and they also love women in France and they love older women, which was nice. I would go there to do press for 'Housewives' and they really appreciated me, in a way more than in America, I have to say. They just appreciate women who are getting older and they think you're getting better like wine, you know?"

"Harlan is a friend because I went to high school with his brother," she said. "He knew that I wanted to work in France and he said, 'Well, maybe you'd like to come and do a little part of this American at the end of the series.' And it's true what they say about shooting in France — they eat, they drink, everybody drinks at lunch and sits together and they sing songs. It's convivial and at night the whole cast, we would go out and eat and drink and work on the script, and then you just show up at seven in the morning and you do your job. It's rich, you know?" Delany said she "had a ball."

"I got a French agent and it just spurred me on to want to work more in France. So I now have a French tutor and I'm hoping to work there. It's kind of been my dream," she said. □

In directorial debut, Portman focuses on her native Israel



Director and actress Natalie Portman speaks with former Israeli President Shimon Peres during a photo call before a premiere of her film "A Tale of Love and Darkness" in Jerusalem, Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015. Associated Press

ARON HELLER
Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — In her feature film directorial debut, Academy Award winning actress Natalie Portman brings to life the autobiographical novel of celebrated Israeli writer Amos Oz about his youth during the Jewish state's founding years.

But in many ways, the Israeli-born Portman says "A Tale of Love and Darkness" also mirrors the story of her own family. Her paternal grandparents were Jewish immigrants to pre-state Israel and other relatives perished in the Holocaust.

"When I read the book it was the first time I could visualize an entire film in my head. It really just inspired so many images right away," she told The Associated Press on Thursday ahead of the film's premiere in Jerusalem. "It was also so personal. I related to so many of the stories because of family histories that I've grown up with and the nostalgia for a country that maybe is not what you think it is."

Besides directing, the 34-year-old Portman also wrote the screenplay based on Oz's 2002 autobiography and stars in the Hebrew-language feature as Oz's troubled mother, Fania, a cultured and

imaginative woman whose dreams can't withstand the grinding everyday reality of Israel's early days.

Portman said that Oz, a perennial candidate for the Nobel Prize in Literature, gave her his blessing and a single piece of guidance.

"His one sort of specification was 'Please make your own piece. Don't just film the book. Make something that is from you. Make your own creation.' So it was very liberating," she said.

Thursday's grand opening at Jerusalem's Cinema City movie complex, with the Israeli cast and former President Shimon Peres in attendance, marked a homecoming of sorts for Portman, who was born in Jerusalem and speaks fluent, albeit accented, Hebrew.

As a child, her family moved to the United States, where she made a memorable feature film debut in 1994's hit-man tale "Leon: The Professional." Additional roles in "Heat" and "Beautiful Girls" catapulted her into the spotlight.

Portman grew up on screen, becoming a worldwide celebrity in her teens and early 20s starring as the tragedy-bound spouse of future evil Jedi master Darth Vader in George Lucas' second "Star Wars" trilogy. She then gracefully moved

into adult roles, including "Goya's Ghosts," "The Other Boleyn Girl" and "Closer," which brought her a first Oscar nomination. In 2010, she won the Academy Award for Best Actress for her starring role as an obsessed, paranoid ballerina in "Black Swan." Now married and a mother, Portman has returned to her roots. She's been a proud ambassador for Israel, while also speaking out against the hawkish policies of current Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. She said the film's focus on the time of Israel's birth brought the changes the country has gone through since into clearer focus.

"I think it is very natural for everything at the beginning to start out with a very idealistic dream of creating," she said. "Then there is reality and there is the naivety of when you start it and the biases you had when you started that muddled that utopian dream."

Still, she embraces her Israeli heritage.

"I think I have gained more from being from this place," she said. "You are a representative for your people whether you want to be or not. You are asked a lot of things all the time just by virtue of being Israeli and even by virtue of being Jewish." □

ABC Family gets top marks for gay, lesbian inclusiveness

DAVID BAUDER

AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The television network that gets the most praise from an advocacy group that monitors content featuring gays, lesbians and transgender people has “family” in its name and targets an audience of teenage girls and young women.

GLAAD said in a report issued Thursday that 74 percent of the programming hours on ABC Family included at least one LGBT character — the highest percentage any network has recorded since the group began issuing content reports in 2007. GLAAD studied the networks for a one-year period that ended May 31.

“We feel it is our responsibility to our viewers to reflect the world that they live in and it’s a diverse world,” said Karey Burke, executive vice president of programming at the Disney-owned network.

ABC Family’s numbers were boosted by the drama “Pretty Little Liars,” where one of the lead characters Emily Fields is a lesbian. “The Fosters” follows the story of a lesbian couple. “Chasing Life” featured a bisexual woman and a gay man, although the latter character died



In this image released by ABC Family, Shay Mitchell portrays Emily Fields, left, and Dre Davis portrays Sara Harvey in a scene from “Pretty Little Liars.” **Associated Press**

of cancer. “Young & Hungry” and “Mystery Girls” both featured gay men, and there were a number of gays and lesbians in the supporting cast of “Switched at Birth.”

Network viewers are also anticipating the January debut of “Shadow Hunters,” a show based on the book series “The Mortal Instrument” that prominently features a gay couple.

Three-quarters of ABC Family’s typical audience is female, with a median age of 29, according to the Nielsen company.

The network is likely to be

more inclusive partly because it seeks a younger audience, an age group that is more accepting of gays and lesbians, said Matt Kane, GLAAD programming director.

Seamlessly including these characters in the stories sends a strong message of acceptance that is likely to help young people dealing with their own identity issues, he said.

“I hope that it is something that other networks are taking notice of,” Kane said.

GLAAD has consulted with ABC Family on its

programming, although Kane wouldn’t divulge the group’s specific role. The network and its actors have helped GLAAD with some of its activities, including an annual “Spirit Day” that encourages people to wear purple for a day.

Burke said the status as GLAAD’s top-rated network “makes us deeply proud.”

“We were hugging each other in the halls here,” she said. “It’s an honor to be recognized.”

GLAAD’s grade did not reflect “Becoming Us,” a nonfiction series about

two transgender people in an Illinois community that aired on ABC Family this summer.

That series, which averaged 452,000 viewers per episode, was a ratings disappointment for ABC Family and it has not been decided whether it will come back for another season. Executives aren’t sure why it didn’t do well, whether the subject matter made viewers feel uncomfortable or whether the attention paid to Caitlyn Jenner’s E! docuseries “I Am Cait” drowned “Becoming Us” out. “We hope it’s not a reflection of the subject matter,” Burke said.

Despite the inclusive hours, GLAAD said one story line on “Pretty Little Liars” was a disappointment. The series had a mentally ill transgender woman who, in the season finale, attempted to murder both her family and the main cast of the show. GLAAD said it was “the latest in a long series of transgender women portrayed as psychotic killers in mainstream media.” Part of acceptance for LGBT characters in entertainment is having them portray villains as well as heroes, Burke said.

“We don’t feel the show has anything to apologize for,” she said. □

With Emmys change, ‘OITNB’ creator not a fan of genres

MESFIN FEKADU

AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The creator of “Orange Is the New Black” says though the Emmys switched the hit show from the comedy category to drama, she’s not a fan of people boxing the series into a single genre.

“The whole label thing is frustrating — just people’s needs to define us. OK, you know, whatever you want to call us, fine,” Jenji Kohan said in an interview Wednesday. “Are we a comedy? Are we a drama? ...Are we doing good work or not? Do you like us or not? As you can hear, I have issues with the whole, you know, beauty contest



In this May 20, 2015 file photo, Jenji Kohan arrives at Netflix’s “Orange Is the New Black” Q&A Screening at the Director Guild of America, in Los Angeles. **Associated Press**

thing. It’s fraud.”

The show, in its third season on Netflix, is nominated for outstanding drama series at the 67th Prime-

time Emmy Awards, which airs on Fox at 8 p.m. EDT on Sept. 20, though last year it competed for outstanding comedy series.

The Television Academy announced this year that shows with episodes of 30 minutes or less are now designated a comedy, while those over a half-hour are dramas. Netflix’s petition to keep the hour-long ‘OITNB’ in the comedy category was denied, according to a report by Variety. Also nominated in the drama category are AMC’s “Better Call Saul,” PBS’ “Downton Abbey,” HBO’s “Game of Thrones,” Showtime’s “Homeland,” and AMC’s “Mad Men.” “(To say), ‘You’re in this box and you’re in that box’ — we’ve always been hard to define; we’re kind of a hybrid, and people feel this need to call us some-

thing, and I don’t feel the same need to say what we are. So, that’s on them,” Kohan said.

This year, “OITNB” earned a Golden Globe nomination for best television series, musical or comedy and won outstanding performance by an ensemble in a comedy series at the Screen Actors Guild Awards.

“We’re funny when we feel we need to be funny and we’re dramatic when we feel we need to be dramatic ‘cause hopefully we’re reflecting life. And life is never just a drama, just a comedy,” Kohan said. “And I don’t know why you have to say it’s one thing or the other.” □

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